

# THE READER

## A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 103, Vol. IV.

Saturday, December 17, 1864.

{ Price Fourpence;  
Stamped, Fivepence.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.  
EXHIBITIONS, SCHOLARSHIPS, &c.

### ANDREWS ENTRANCE EXHIBITIONS.

COMPETITIVE.—EXAMINATION in CLASSICS and MATHEMATICS—Three of £20 per annum, each tenable for two years. Examination in the first week of October.

MEDICAL ENTRANCE EXHIBITIONS. Competitive.—EXAMINATION in Classics and Mathematics—Three of the respective value of £20, £20, and £10 per annum, each tenable for two years. Examination in the last week in September.

SCHOLARSHIPS.—Faculty of Arts.—At the end of every Session Two Andrews Scholarships of £20, dependent on the result of the Class Examinations in Classics and Mathematics, to Students of two years standing.

ANDREWS PRIZES at the end of every Session—Two of £25, dependent on the result of the Class Examinations in Classics and Mathematics, to Students of one year's standing.

JEWS' COMMEMORATION SCHOLARSHIPS ANNUALLY.

A SCHOLARSHIP of £15 a year, tenable for two years, available for Classes of either Faculty, Arts or Medicine, to the Student of the Faculty of Arts, of not more than one year's standing in the College, whatever be his religious denomination, and wherever he was previously educated, and whose age, when he first entered the College, did not exceed eighteen years, who shall be most distinguished by general proficiency and good conduct.

JOSEPH HUME AND RICARDO SCHOLARSHIPS.

A JOSEPH HUME SCHOLARSHIP in Political Economy of £20 a year, tenable for three years, for competition in November, 1865, and in November of every third year afterwards. A RICARDO SCHOLARSHIP in Jurisprudence of £20 a year, tenable for three years, in November, 1866, and in November of every third year afterwards. Also a JOSEPH HUME SCHOLARSHIP in Jurisprudence of £20 a year, tenable for three years, in November, 1867, and in November of every third year afterwards.

MEDICAL FACULTY SCHOLARSHIPS, &c.

ATKINSON MORLEY SURGICAL SCHOLARSHIP annually, on the 1st June, for the promotion of the Study of Surgery, £45, available for three years.

LONGRIDGE EXHIBITION, annually until notice to the contrary, £40 for General Proficiency in Medicine and Surgery.

FILLITER EXHIBITION, annually, in October, £30, for proficiency in Pathological Anatomy.

The Regulations concerning these Exhibitions, Scholarships, and Prizes, with Prospects of the Courses of Instruction in both Faculties of the College, may be obtained in application in person, or by letter, at the office of the College.

CHARLES C. ATKINSON, Secretary.

18th December, 1864.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—

The Animal Products Collection and part of the Structure Collection will be closed to the Public after the 1st of January, 1865, in order to prepare for removal of part of the Ion Building.

By order of the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education.

THE MODELS OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE, from 1488 to the Present Time, contributed by the Admiralty and Private Shipbuilders, &c., will be opened to the Public on and after MONDAY, the 19th December current, in the SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays, free, from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. Admission, sixpence.

By Order of the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—

On Saturday, the 10th instant, being the Ninety-sixth anniversary of the Foundation of the Royal Academy of Arts, at a General Assembly of the Academicians, the following Silver Medals were awarded:—

To Mr. Thomas Davidson, for the best Painting from the Life.

To Mr. Frederick George Oakes, for the best Copy made in the School of Painting.

To Mr. Claude Andrews Calthrop, for the best Drawing from the Life.

To Mr. Richard Lincoln Alldridge, for the best Drawing from the Antique.

To Mr. James Griffiths, for the best Model from the Antique.

To Mr. Sydney Williams Lee, for the best Architectural Drawing.

To Mr. Horace Henry Cauty, for the best Perspective Drawing.

and to Mr. Richard Phene Spiers the Travelling Studentship for One Year, for an Architectural Design.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A.,

Secretary.

DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of FINE ARTS and MANUFACTURES, 1865.

Under the Special Patronage of HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

INTENDING EXHIBITORS are informed that the 31st December is the latest day on which APPLICATIONS FOR SPACE will be received. The requisite forms can be obtained at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C., or at the Exhibition Palace, Dublin.

By Order, HENRY PARKINSON, Secretary.

ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

NEW YORK DIVISION—First Mortgage Bonds.

PENNSYLVANIA DIVISION—OHIO DIVISION—

Second Mortgage Bonds.

Interest payable 1st January, at the CONSOLIDATED BANK LIMITED.

The COUPONS from the above BONDS will be PAID on

the 2nd January at the rate of 4s. to the dollar, and must be sent by post, a cheque for the amount will be remitted.

2 Old Broad Street, London, E.C., previously, for Examination.

December 15th, 1864.

CRYSTAL PALACE, THIS DAY,  
SATURDAY CONCERT and AFTERNOON PROMENADE.—Vocalists, Madame GRISI and Signor MARCHESI; Solo Pianist, Signor MATTEI; Solo Violinist, Signor ADELmann; Conductor, Mr. MANNS. Programme includes Italian Symphony (Mendelssohn); Song, "Home Sweet Home;" Overture, "Manfred" (Schumann). Palace warmed and brilliantly lighted for Afternoon Promenade. Admission Half-a-Crown, or by Guinea Season Tickets. A few reserved seats at No. 6, Exeter Hall, or the Palace, Half-a-Crown.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED, with Mr. JOHN PARRY, in "The Rival Composers," "The Bard and His Birthday," and "Mrs. Roseleaf at the Seaside," every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight; Saturday at Three. ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street. Unreserved Seats, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 5s.

WINTER EXHIBITION, 120, Pall Mall.—The TWELFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of CABINET PICTURES by LIVING BRITISH ARTISTS is NOW OPEN from 9.30 to 5 p.m. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

HOLMAN HUNT'S PICTURES.  
"London Bridge on the Night of the Marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales," and "The Afterglow in Egypt," together with Robert B. Martineau's Picture, "The Last Day in the Old Home" are now ON VIEW, at the NEW GALLERY, 16, Hanover Street, Regent Street, from Nine in the Morning till Ten at Night. Admission during the day from Nine till Seven, One Shilling; and in the evening from Seven till Ten, Sixpence.

LESSONS IN DRAWING AND MODELLING.

MR. R. W. BROOKES has the honour to announce that he is prepared to give Lessons in Crayon, Monochrome, Sepia, and Pencil Drawing; and in Terra-Cotta, Plaster of Paris, and Wax Modelling.

These lessons will put the pupil in possession of a system of drawing, by which, with moderate practice, objects may be copied correctly and rapidly, and will at the same time so familiarize the principles of art, that the works of others will be more truly appreciated.

The teaching is based upon the systems of the Royal Academy and the Department of Science and Art.

The Terms, which are moderate, will be reduced if two or more take lessons together.

Reference kindly permitted to a Royal Academician.

57, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1836.  
OFFICES:—1, Dale Street, Liverpool; 20 and 21, Poultry; 7, Cornhill; and 56, Charing Cross, London.

REVENUE IN 1863:—  
Fire Premiums ..... £580,000  
Life Premiums ..... 210,000  
Interest on Investments ..... 160,000  
£950,000

Agencies are established for effecting both Fire and Life Insurances, and facilitating the payment of Premiums in all parts of the world.

SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.

JOHN ATKINS, Resident Secretary.

November, 1864.

HERCULES FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY (Limited), 94, CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.—NON-TARIFF FIRE INSURANCE, NEW PLAN OF ASSURING SECOND-CLASS LIVES. See Prospectus.

Agents are required on liberal terms.

SAMUEL J. SHRUBB,

Manager and Secretary.

STAR LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 10, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON:—DIRECTORS: Chairman—CHARLES HARWOOD, Esq., F.S.A., Judge of the County Court of Kent, and Recorder of Shrewsbury.—Deputy Chairman—JOHN CHURCHILL, Esq.—Every description of Life Assurance.—Annual Income, £130,000. The Reserved Fund exceeds Half a Million.

JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

FINAL NOTICE.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

CLOSE OF THE BOOKS FOR 1864.

Life Policies with Profits effected during this year will receive One Year's additional Bonus, in comparison with later Entrants.

NINETY PER CENT. of the whole Profits is divided among the Participating Policy-holders.

INVESTED FUNDS ..... £2,253,927. 17s. 7d.

ANNUAL REVENUE ..... HALF-A-MILLION.

LONDON—HEAD OFFICES ..... 61, Threadneedle Street, E.C.  
WEST-END OFFICE ..... 8, Waterloo Street, Pall Mall.

PRIVATE TUTOR.—A CLERGYMAN, M.A. of Cambridge, residing near Richmond, experienced in Tuition, and possessing highly satisfactory Testimonials, is desirous of meeting with a Pupil. Address—BETA, HISCOCKS and SON'S LIBRARY, Richmond, Surrey.

PARIS.—AGENT FOR THE READER, MR. J. ROTHSCHILD, Rue de Buci, 14, who will receive Subscriptions and forward Books intended for Review.

GERMANY.—Mr. F. A. BROCKHAUS, Leipzig, having been appointed Agent for Leipzig and Northern Germany, it is requested that intending Subscribers will send their names to him. Books for Review may also be forwarded to him for enclosure in his Weekly Parcel.

PRUSSIA.—MESSRS. ASHER & CO., Berlin Agents for THE READER, will receive the names of Subscribers, and take charge of Books intended for Review.

NORTH OF EUROPE.—MESSRS. ONCKEN, 10, grosser Barstrasse, Hamburg, will supply THE READER, receive Books intended for Review, and forward Communications to the Editor.

INDIA: MADRAS.—MESSRS. GANTZ Brothers, 175, Mount Road, Madras, will register names of Subscriber on account of THE READER. Annual Subscription, including postage, 13 rupees.

WESTERN FIRE OFFICE (LIMITED).

WESTERN LIFE OFFICE.

ESTABLISHED 1842.

CHIEF OFFICES—3, Parliament Street, London, and 77, King Street, Manchester.

Prospectuses, Form of Proposal, &c., forwarded post free.

ARTHUR SCRATCHLEY, M.A.,

General Manager and Actuary.

Private Agents Wanted.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vict., Cap. 9.

1, PRINCE STREET, BANK, LONDON.

Every description of LIFE ASSURANCE Business transacted at the lowest rates of Premium consistent with security.

The various Tables, some of which are peculiar to this Company, have been studiously adapted to the requirements of every class of Assurers.

ANDREW FRANCIS, Secretary.

UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

1, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1834.

LIFE ASSURANCE AT VERY LOW PREMIUMS. Annual Division of Profits. All Premiums on Policies with Profits, British or Indian, Military or Civil, reduced one-half in 1864 after six payments. Accumulated Funds, £815,000. Annual Income, £135,000. Prospectus on application at the Head Office as above, or at Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras.

FREDK. HENDRIKS,

Actuary and Secretary.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

1, Old Broad Street, and 16 and 17, Pall Mall, London.

Established 1803.

Subscribed and Invested Capital and Reserved Fund, £1,900,000.

Losses paid, £3,000,000.

FIRE INSURANCES granted on every description of property at home and abroad at moderate rates. Claims liberally and promptly settled.

Insurances on Stock, Machinery, Utensils, and Fixtures in Trade effected at a reduction of one-half the duty formerly charged.

ANDREW BADEN, Superintendent.

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

48, ST. JAMES'S STREET, LONDON, S.W.

FOUNDED IN 1845.

Trustees:

The Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot.

Sir Claude Scott, Bart. | Henry Pownall, Esq.

Every information will be readily afforded on application.

HENRY D. DAVENPORT, Secretary.

HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT, GRAEFENBERG VILLA, NEW BARNET, HERTS, close to the Railway Station, under the direction of Mr. METCALFE (Proprietor of the Hydropathic Establishment, Pressnitz House, Paddington Green, W.)

New Barnet, admitted by the Medical Profession to be one of the most salubrious spots in England, adjoins Hadley Wood, and is within half-an-hour's ride by the Great Northern Railway of the King's Cross Station, from whence trains start every hour.

For Terms and Prospectuses apply to Mrs. WESTON, Graefenberg Villa, as above.

# THE READER.

17 DECEMBER, 1864.

DEANE'S (the Monument), LONDON BRIDGE.  
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1700.

DEANE'S TABLE CUTLERY, celebrated for more than 150 years, remains unrivalled for quality and cheapness. The Stock is most extensive and complete, affording a choice suited to the taste and means of every purchaser. The following are some of the prices for Ivory-handled Knives, each blade being of the best steel, bearing our name, and warranted:

	s. d.					
Table Knives, per doz.	12 6	14 0	16 0	19 0	23 0	25 29 33
Dessert ditto	11 6	12 0	12 0	15 0	18 0	20 23 28
Carvers, Joint, per pair	5 0	5 0	5 6	6 6	7 6	8 9 11

ELECTRO-PLATED SPOONS and FORKS.—The best manufacture, well-finished, strongly plated. Every article stamped with our mark, and guaranteed.

	FIDDLE. 2nd.	REEDED. 2nd.	KING'S. 2nd.	LILY. Best.
Per dozen.	s. d.	s.	s.	s.
Table Spoons	33 0	40	44	58
Table Forks	31 0	38	44	56
Dessert Forks	23 0	29	32	40
Dessert Spoons	24 0	30	32	42
Tea Spoons	14 6	18	22	26
Gravy Spoons each	6 6	7 6	9	11
			12	10

DISH COVERS & HOT-WATER DISHES.—DEANE & Co. invite particular attention to their varied and excellent assortment of these goods, to which they are continually adding all modern approved patterns in Electro-plate, Britannia Metal, and Tin.

	£. s. d.					
Britannia Metal, set of 5	3 0	3 6	3 10	4 6	5 10	5 15
Britannia Metal, set of 6	4 5	4 13	5 0	5 8	7 7	7 17
Block Tin, set of 5	0 18	1 10	2 0	2 2	2 8	2 17
Electro-plate, set of 4	12 8	12 12	14 0	15 0	15 15	26 4

New Illustrated Catalogue and Priced Furnishing List, gratis, and post free.

DEANE & CO.,  
46, KING WILLIAM STREET,  
LONDON BRIDGE.

CLOCKS, CANDELABRA, BRONZES, and LAMPS.—WILLIAM S. BURTON invites inspection of his Stock of these, displayed in two large Show Rooms. Each article is of guaranteed quality, and some are objects of pure Vertu, the productions of the first manufacturers of Paris, from whom WILLIAM S. BURTON imports them direct.

Clocks, from ... ... ... 7s. 6d. to £25  
Candelabra, from ... ... ... 13s. 6d. to £16. 10s. per pair.  
Bronzes, from ... ... ... 18s. to £16. 10s.  
Lamps, moderateur, from ... ... ... 6s. to 29.  
Pure Colza Oil ... ... ... 4s. per gallon.

WILLIAM S. BURTON, GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGER, by appointment, to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, sends a CATALOGUE gratis and post paid. It contains upwards of 600 Illustrations of his illimitable stock of Sterling Silver and Electro Plate, Nickel Silver and Britannia Metal Goods, Dish Covers, Hot-water Dishes, Stoves, Fenders, Marble Chimney-pieces, Kitchen Ranges, Lamps, Gasoliers, Tea Trays, Urns and Kettles, Clocks, Table Cutlery, Baths, Toilet Ware, Turnery, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, Bed-room Cabinet Furniture, &c., with Lists of Prices and Plans of the Twenty Large Show Rooms, at 39, Oxford Street, W.; 1, 1A, 2, 3, and 4, Newman Street; 4, 5, and 6, Perry's Place; and 1, Newman Yard, London.

SMITH, BECK, AND BECK'S NEW MERCURIAL MAXIMUM THERMOMETER.—This instrument cannot be put out of order, and registers the heat with the greatest accuracy. A description sent free by post, or to be had on application at 31, Cornhill, E.C.

W. LADD, MICROSCOPE AND PHILIPSOPHICAL INSTRUMENT MAKER (by appointment to the Royal Institution of Great Britain), begs respectfully to inform the Public that Microscopes, Telescopes, Opera Glasses, Mathematical and Philosophical Instruments of the best construction, may be obtained at his Establishment,

11 and 12, Bea Street, Regent Street, London, W.  
The Prize Medal, 1862, is awarded to W. L. for excellence of Microscopes, Induction Coils, &c.

FOR EVERY HOME AN EXCELSIOR SEWING AND EMBROIDERING MACHINE is the simplest, cheapest, and best; doing every variety of domestic and fancy work in a superior manner. Price from £6. 6s.  
WRIGHT and MANN, 148, Holborn Bars, London, E.C.  
Manufactory—Gipping Works, Ipswich.

HEAL & SON'S EIDER-DOWN QUILTS, from 24s. to Ten Guineas. Also GOOSE-DOWN QUILTS, from 10s. to 32s. Lists of Prizes and Sizes sent free by post. HEAL and SON'S Illustrated Catalogue of Bedsteads and Priced List of Bedding also sent post free on application to 196, Tottenham Court Road, W.

THRESHER'S COLOURED FLANNEL SHIRTS.

Next Door to Somerset House, Strand.

SOFT, DELICATE, and WHITE SKINS, with a DELIGHTFUL and LASTING FRAGRANCE, by using FIELD'S CELEBRATED UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS, 4d. and 6d. each.

Sold by all Chandlers and Grocers throughout the Kingdom; but the Public should ask for Field's, and see that the names of J. C. and J. FIELD are on each packet, box, and tablet.

Wholesale and for Exportation, at the Works,  
UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH, S.

Where also may be obtained their Prize Medal Paraffine Candles.

## EDUCATIONAL TELESCOPES.

T. COOKE & SONS,  
OPTICIANS, &c.,  
31, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND,  
LONDON.

### MANUFACTORY—

### BUCKINGHAM WORKS, YORK.

Beg to announce that, in addition to their high-class ASTRONOMICAL TELESCOPES of all Sizes, they are now manufacturing

### EDUCATIONAL TELESCOPES,

With object-glasses, varying in aperture from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 inches. The EDUCATIONAL TELESCOPES are supplied with the best object-glasses; brass tubes, with rack adjustment to focus, finder, dew-cap, and two astronomical eye-pieces, with sun-shades; they are mounted on tall tripod stands, with horizontal and vertical motions, and steadyng rods. All packed in neat cases.

In consequence of increased facilities in their manufacture, T. COOKE & Sons are enabled to offer their EDUCATIONAL TELESCOPES at prices ranging from £10 to £36.

They also beg to solicit attention to their

### PORTABLE EQUATORIAL MOUNTINGS.

With Hour Circle, reading to twenty seconds of time, and Declination Circle, to one minute of arc; tangent-screw motion, and all necessary means of adjustment in position, on stout tripod stands. From £5 to £12. 10s.

PRICE LISTS may be had on application.

### CHURCH, TURRET, & STABLE CLOCKS,

BY  
T. COOKE AND SONS,  
31, Southampton Street, Strand, London.  
MANUFACTORY—  
BUCKINGHAM WORKS, YORK.

BREAKFAST BEVERAGE.—Homoeopathic Practitioners, and the Medical Profession generally, recommend COCOA as being the most healthful of all beverages. When the doctrine of homoeopathy was first introduced into this country, there were to be obtained no preparations of Cocoa either attractive to the taste or acceptable to the stomach; the nut was either supplied in the crude state, or so unskillfully manufactured as to obtain little notice. J. EPPS, of London, Homoeopathic Chemist, was induced, in the year 1839, to turn his attention to this subject, and at length succeeded, with the assistance of elaborate machinery, in being the first to produce an article pure in its composition, and so refined by the perfect trituration it receives in the process it passes through, as to be most acceptable to the delicate stomach.

EPPS'S HOMEOPATHIC COCOA is distinguished as an invigorating and grateful breakfast beverage, with a delicious aroma. Dr. Hassall, in his work, "Adulterations of Food," says, "Cocoa contains a great variety of important nutritive principles; every ingredient necessary to the growth and sustenance of the body." Again—"As a nutritive, Cocoa stands very much higher than either coffee or tea." Directions—Two tea-spoonsfuls of the powder in a breakfast cup, filled up with boiling water or milk, stirring meanwhile. Secured in tin-lined 1lb.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and lb. packets, labelled, "J. EPPS, Homeopathic Chemist, 112, Great Russell Street; 170, Piccadilly; and 48, Threadneedle Street. Manufacturer, Euston Road, London, and sold by Grocers, Confectioners, and Chemists."

CAUTION.—COCKS'S CELEBRATED READING SAUCE, for Fish, Game, Steaks, Soups, Gravies, Hot and Cold Meats, and unrivalled for general use, is sold by all respectable Dealers in Sauces. It is manufactured only by the Executors of the Sole Proprietor, CHARLES COCKS, 6, DUKE STREET, READING, the Original Sauce Warehouse.

ALL OTHERS ARE SPURIOUS IMITATIONS.

### SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This Delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs "THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE,"

is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

### ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

\* \* Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the PROPRIETORS, Worcester; Messrs. CHASSE and BLACKWELL; Messrs. BARCLAY and SON, London, &c. &c.; and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

### THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS are confidently recommended as a simple but certain remedy for Indigestion. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient, are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use. Sold in bottles at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, in every town in the kingdom.—Caution! Be sure to ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase the various imitations.

CANDLES.—HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT have adopted, for the Military Stations, FIELD'S Prize Medal PARAFFINE CANDLE, manufactured by

J. C. and J. FIELD,

Who beg to caution the Public against spurious imitations. Their Label is on the Packets and Boxes.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the Kingdom. Wholesale and for Exportation at the Works, UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH, S., where also may be obtained their

CELEBRATED UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS, and the NEW CANDLE, Self-fitting, and no Paper or Scraping.

## GUN COTTON MANUFACTORY: GREAT EASTERN CHEMICAL WORKS, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.—MESSRS. THOMAS, PRENTICE, & CO.

THIS MANUFACTORY has been established for the purpose of preparing Gun Cotton, according to the Austrian process, and was opened on the 26th of January last, under the inspection of Baron LENK. Messrs. THOMAS, PRENTICE, & CO. are now able to supply Gun Cotton in its most improved form, either for the purposes of Engineering and Mining, or for Military and Submarine explosion, and for the service of Artillery as a substitute for gunpowder.

The advantages of Baron LENK's Gun Cotton are the following:—

### FOR PURPOSES OF ARTILLERY.

1. The same initial velocity of the projectile can be obtained by a charge of Gun Cotton one-fourth of the weight of gunpowder.

2. No smoke from the explosion.

3. Does not foul the gun.

4. Does not heat the gun to the injurious degree of gunpowder.

5. The same velocity to the projectile with much smaller recoil of the gun.

6. Will produce the same initial velocity of projectile with a shorter length of barrel.

7. In projectiles of the nature of explosive shells, Gun Cotton has the advantage of breaking the shell more equally into much more numerous pieces than gunpowder.

8. When used in shells instead of gunpowder, one-third of the weight of the latter produces double the explosive force.

### FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AND MINING.

9. A charge of Gun Cotton of given size exerts double the explosive force of gunpowder.

10. It may be used, as, in its explosion, to reduce the rock to much smaller pieces than gunpowder, and so facilitate its removal.

11. Producing no smoke, the work can proceed much more rapidly, and with less injury to health.

12. In working coal mines, bringing down much larger quantities with a given charge, and absence of smoke, enable a much greater quantity of work to be done in a given time at a given cost.

13. The weight of Gun Cotton required to produce a given effect in mining is only one-sixth of the weight of gunpowder.

14. In blasting rock under water the wider range and greater force of a given charge cheapens considerably the cost of submarine work.

15. The peculiar local action of Gun Cotton enables the engineer to destroy and remove submarine stones and rocks without the preliminary delay and expense of boring chambers for the charge.

### FOR MILITARY ENGINEERING.

16. The weight of Gun Cotton is only one-sixth that of gunpowder.

17. Its peculiar localized action enables the engineer to destroy bridges and pallisades, and to remove every kind of obstacle with great facility.

18. For submarine explosion, either in attack or defence, it has the advantage of a much wider range of destructive power than gunpowder.

19. For the same purpose. From its lightness it has the advantage of keeping afloat the water-tight case in which it is contained, while gunpowder sinks it to the bottom.

### FOR NAVAL WARFARE.

20. Where guns are close together, as in the batteries of ships and case-mated forts, the absence of smoke removes the great evil, of the firing of one gun impeding the aim of the next, and thus Gun Cotton facilitates rapid firing.

21. Between decks, also, the absence of smoke allows

# THE READER.

17 DECEMBER, 1864.

## Sales by Auction.

Valuable Books, Fine Illustrated Works, Modern Publications, &c.

**MR. HODGSON** will SELL by AUCTION, at his Rooms, 115, Chancery Lane, W.C., on TUESDAY Dec. 20, and Two Following Days, at One o'clock, a COLLECTION OF BOOKS, principally modern, including an assemblage of Illustrated Works, and other publications of interest from the country, and a consignment of New Books from America, comprising Longman's beautiful edition of the New Testament, a large paper copy, very scarce; Richardson's Studies of Old English Mansions, 4 vols., Scopies; Lake Price's Venice; Shaw's Architectural Sketches, large paper; Pyne's Lake Scenery, large paper; Boselli's Crimes, coloured plates; Brees's Railway Practice, 2 vols.; Perry's China and Japan, coloured plates, 3 vols.; the Pacific Railroad Reports, coloured plates, 11 vols.; Aikin's London, with extra plates, 3 vols.; Lysons's London, 6 vols.; Punch, 24 vols.; Strickland's Queens, 12 vols.; Orr's Portrait Gallery, 3 vols.; morocco; Knight's National Shakspeare, 6 vols.; Lodge's Portraits, 5 vols.; English Historical Society's Publications, 20 vols.; Owen's Works, 24 vols.; Boston's Works, 12 vols.; Hawker's Works, 10 vols.; and other standard Theological and Historical Works. Books in quarto and bound, viz., 45 Ticknor's Spanish Literature, 3 vols. royal 8vo.; 101 Ferguson's Topography of Jerusalem, imp. 8vo.; 100 Freeman's History of Architecture, 8vo.; 350 Canon Wordsworth on the Inspiration of Scripture, 8vo.; 215 St. Hippolytus, by the same, &c., &c.

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## THE READER.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1864.

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### A FRENCH VIEW OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

"TO see ourselves as others see us" is a wish seldom gratified, and about the expediency of whose gratification doubts may very reasonably be entertained. It is more than a question whether we should know ourselves at all better if we could be exactly aware of what other people think of us. Nobody, it has been said, knows much about himself, and nobody else knows anything. And therefore we are by no means prepared to admit that a foreign view of our English institutions and customs and literature is at all more likely to be correct than the one received as orthodox amongst ourselves. We often laugh at the Americans for their assumption of the impossibility of any strangers ever understanding their country; but yet we ourselves hold a similar faith in our heart of hearts. As far as the French are concerned, we believe that our scepticism is fully justified. It is as impossible for a Frenchman really to understand England as it is for an Englishman really to understand France. Between the two nations there flows an unbridgeable channel morally as well as physically. Our own experience, which is a pretty large one, has led us to the firm conviction that no articulate being could ever speak both French and English with equally perfect facility. His knowledge of the two languages might be complete, but his accent must err in one direction or the other. Whether this assertion of ours be true or not of the language of words, it is true most certainly of that of thoughts. You cannot judge of men, or things, or books, at one and the same time, by the French or the English standard. You must choose one standard for yourself; and the very fact of your choice of the one disqualifies you for the employment of the other.

As far as the knowledge of the outward conditions of life are concerned, we undoubtedly know far more about the French than they do about us. Hundreds cross the Channel from our side for one who crosses it from the other. Every Englishman who pretends to any degree of education has been

to France, and has some slight smattering of French. But a knowledge of English and English is not reckoned an essential element of ordinary French education. The streets of Paris are as well known to most of us as those of London, and we do not make the same gross blunders in describing the localities and external phenomena of France that our neighbours do when they attempt descriptions of England. Just in the same way, our knowledge of French literature is more extensive than that possessed of our own by French writers. But, as far as any real foreign appreciation of either country or either literature is concerned, the true critic must not be sought in France or in England. No French writer is probably more competent to give an opinion on our English classics than M. Henri Taine, whose "History of English Literature" has given occasion for these comments. M. Taine understands English admirably, and his translations of the most difficult passages in our modern writers appear to us wonderfully accurate and forcible. We have no doubt he knows a great deal more about the history of our literature than ninety-nine educated Englishmen out of a hundred. Politically, we should imagine him to belong to the "doctrinaire" school, which affected an intense, if not a genuine, admiration for our British institutions. Nothing can be more complimentary than the tone our censor affects towards us; and yet, in spite of his professed good-will, it is impossible to avoid the impression that he does not think very much of our literature after all. We are speaking now of his criticism on our contemporary literature, rather than of his estimate of our classical writers. The plain truth is that with all M. Taine's intimate knowledge of England and English, he cannot understand our tastes. What pleases us bores him; our sentiment is not his sentiment, and our humour is not his humour. There is no abstract standard by which one class of literature can be compared with another; and therefore, when we find that M. Taine prefers De Musset to Tennyson, and Stendhal and George Sand to Dickens and Thackeray, we are not disposed to dispute the correctness of his taste. All we say is that, not being able to enter into the spirit of our literature, he cannot be accepted as an authority on its merits. Any one who has undergone the misery of reading an English translation of Balzac or Victor Hugo will be able to appreciate the inadequacy of the French language to reproduce works like those of "Boz" or "Michael Angelo Titmarsh." "James's Diary," when done into French under the title of "Jean de la Pluche," must lose perforce the delicate wit which redeems the original from wearisome absurdity. We remember once meeting with a French translation of David Copperfield. The author was obviously in a terrible strait when he had to translate the unintelligible exclamation "Goroo, Goroo!" with which the old Jew slopseller at Deptford greeted David on his flight to Dover. The nearest approximation the translator could arrive at was the paraphrase "Par les cornes de Moïse!" To any one who appreciates the vague idea which obviously floated through the translator's mind in the selection of this oath it will be obvious how utterly impossible it must have been for him to enter into the true spirit of the author of "Pickwick."

But, though we should decline to receive the opinions of M. Taine or of any other foreign critic on the abstract merits of English contemporary literature, it is curious to observe what are the defects which seem to him most flagrant. Dickens and Thackeray he takes fairly enough as the representatives of English fiction; and the chief moral complaint he raises against both those writers is their untruthfulness. With malice prepense—we are quoting the gist of his essay, not the words themselves—they habitually sacrifice truth to conventional prejudices. Instead of describing men as they really are, neither good nor bad, they divide them into

distinct classes, and make them the representatives of good or evil respectively. Because English society objects to breaches of the Seventh Commandment, they ignore the existence of passion as a motive-power in life. Their heroes and heroines are not men and women with human loves and hates and passions, but well-conducted school-boys and school-girls, who always behave with the strictest regard to propriety. Love is only permitted when marriage in some form or other is its expected termination; and the cardinal vices and virtues are only allowed circulation in expurgated editions. An English critic, even if he agreed in the main with the truth of this censure, would hold that Dickens was far more amenable to it than Thackeray. "Vanity Fair" is the most outspoken novel of note which has been published in England during the present generation; and the famous soliloquy in "Pendennis," in which the writer complains of the impossibility of painting men as they are, shows that Thackeray chafed under restraints of which Dickens appears morally conscious. M. Taine, however, makes no difference between the two writers in point of untruthfulness. In fact, he obviously fails to perceive the scarcely concealed sympathy that the creator of Becky Sharp felt for his creation, and accuses him of never making allowance for her frailties.

One evil result of our English code for novel-writers M. Taine considers, and we think justly, to consist in the didactic character of our stories. A novel with us must have a moral, and the necessity of pointing out a moral is fatal to art. Balzac and George Sand content themselves with showing the working of human passions. They are not judges or censors, but observers only; and therefore their men and women have a life-likeness not vouchsafed to their English compeers. Their good men are not so terribly good as ours, and their bad men not so irredeemably bad. Two of the best characters our great novelists have depicted are, in M. Taine's estimation, Mr. Dombey and Major Pendennis. Yet both these portraiture are spoiled by the sudden conversion of these two types of selfishness at the close of their lives. Experience tells us that, in real life, they would have died as they lived, but the British public holds that wicked old men ought to repent; and so the artists condescended to ruin the grandeur of their conceptions in deference to the taste of their patrons.

A very similar objection is urged by M. Taine to the style of our English writers. Their love for minute detail, their passion for extreme fidelity of description, weakens their power of giving any general picture, or creating any marked or definite impression on the mind of the reader. What we are in art—so our French observer considers—we are in literature. We excel in pre-Raphaelite miniature, but we cannot rival the French in breadth of outline or mass of colouring. No doubt there is some truth in this assertion. We have too much of photography in our literature as well as in our art. But, on the other hand, it may fairly be urged that the French fall into the contrary error, and fail to convey a true impression in writing as in painting by their disregard for detail.

In reality, the sum of M. Taine's criticisms amounts to this—that English literature is a reproduction of English thoughts and manners. These thoughts and manners may be in many respects inferior to those of France. There is less hypocrisy probably on the other side of St. George's Channel, less regard for the externals of propriety as being more important than its innate essence. But it must also be allowed that we have far less of the hypocrisy of vice, far less of the affectation of immorality. The truth is that, in their virtues, as in their vices, the two nations are diametrically opposed. And thus the writers of the two countries have to fulfil different and almost antagonistic functions. French authors are as much bound to study the conventional prejudices of their public as

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our own; the only difference is that the prejudices of France and England are not the same. Each class must conform to the received standards of his country; and a Dickens would be as impossible in France as a Balzac in England. We, of course, have our own opinion as to which standard is the best morally. And, even as a matter of art, we think there is a good deal to be said in favour of our more restricted code. There are, without a question, a large class of eminently dramatic passions from whose description an English author is virtually debarred; at the same time, a French novelist is forced, by the exigencies of his public, to give passion a pre-eminence in his story which it does not occupy in real life. Both restrictions are injurious to art; but whether excessive strictness or excessive laxness is most injurious is a question on which opinions may fairly differ.

## CURRENT LITERATURE.

## FAMILY NAMES.

*The Teutonic Name-system applied to the Family Names of France, England, and Germany.* By Robert Ferguson, author of "The River-Names of Europe," "Swiss Men and Swiss Mountains," &c. (Williams and Norgate.)

WHEN Mr. Bugg of Forest Hill announced his intention of assuming the style and title of Norfolk Howard, the public laughed at, but sympathized with, the discontented Bugg. It was felt that there was something reasonable in his dissatisfaction with so ignoble an appellation. Writers in the public journals of the day speedily adduced scores of English surnames, chiefly monosyllabic, all of which were disagreeable, many indecent or disgusting. So, when a lord-lieutenant, himself the possessor of a monosyllabic name, refused to sanction the exchange, by an officer in the militia regiment of his county, of the name of Jones for that of Herbert, an indignant public overwhelmed that too scrupulous nobleman with a flood of reproaches. Yet, if the views propounded by Mr. Ferguson in the work before us are well founded, the public and the malcontents were wrong, and ignorantly undervalued the dignity and antiquity of English monosyllabic surnames.

Mr. Ferguson's aim has been, as he informs us, to vindicate the antiquity, and to assert the nobility, of our common English names. He has endeavoured to show that very many of those which seem the meanest and the most vulgar are in reality the most ancient; that, philologically speaking, the Norman territorial seigneurs are the parvenus—the Babbs and the Bubbs, and the Dadds, the Raggs, the Ruggs, and the Wiggs, the Potts, the Juggs, and the Tubbs, the grand old nobility.

This may be very true; but, even had Mr. Ferguson been entirely successful in the establishment of his theory, we doubt whether any Englishman will be found to prefer the name of Snook to that of Montmorency, though the former should be proved to have been borne by illustrious warriors of the fourth or fifth century who rejoiced in the appellation of *snog*, or "the snake." Perhaps the better course to adopt would be that middle one which Mr. Dickens, with marvellous prescience (for we do not suspect the author of "Martin Chuzzlewit" of any acquaintance with Old High German names of the fifth century), ascribes to the sagacious director of the Anglo-Bengalee Assurance Company, who, retaining the noble but antiquated name of Tigg, added to it, in submission to modern prejudices, the more euphonious, if parvenu appellative, of Montague.

A cursory glance at Mr. Ferguson's pages shows us that a very considerable mass of facts has been accumulated, and presents us with many curious and amusing speculations. In our author's hands, names which at first sight appear to be the very indices of meanness and vulgarity assume a noble and aristocratic aspect worthy of the fearless and

free-born warriors of the German forest, or of the hardy sea-rovers of the narrow seas of the North. Who could have imagined that Snook, Snugg, and Snagg would turn out to be derived from the Danish *snog*, a snake—that Sneezy means "a spearman," Radish "a councillor," Cheese "a hostage," Pigg "a slasher," Mouse "the courageous one," Toby "a dove," and Bully, "a friend and brother"?

Every one has observed the curious correspondence and opposition which occur between names of men and their occupations. Novelists and dramatists who have invented names indicative of the characters they depict have not often overstepped the limits of probability. Mr. Ferguson tells us that Porte, Claret, and Champagne are wine-merchants in Paris, Verjus is a doctor, and Virgile keeps the Hôtel Byron. On the other hand, Clovis and Odin are tailors, Saladin is a hairdresser, Milord is a grocer, and Minerve sells lemonade; Madame Thais watches over the morals of a religious order, Madame Mizery keeps an hotel, and no doubt makes people comfortable. These relations between the name and the occupation are patent on the surface; the application of the Teutonic etymology brings out hidden and not less curious relations, some of which are as unexpected as the appropriate application of some well-known anagrams. Thus Stowell is said to mean "a judge," from the Gothic *staua*; Thackeray means "the thinker;" Bonaparte is derived from *bana, bona*, a slayer, and *bert* or *pert*, famous—"the famous slayer." Hogg (bearing in mind the learned Toby) is "the wise one," though we are surprised to find Cheeks and Chucks classed under the same head. Muzzy, "the brave one," is rather redolent of Dutch courage; and Mutton, a not inappropriate name for a Brighton restaurateur and butcher, seems oddly associated with Mosey, Muddle, Mouse, Mozart, and Musick, all having the same origin in the Old High German *möt*, Anglo-Saxon *mōd*, courage. Betsy Prig derives her name from *brecan*, to beat; Mrs. Harris, as not being an individual personage, but a representative of many, derives hers, very appropriately, from *har*, an army; and, though Mrs. Gamp's name is omitted from the list, we have no hesitation in deriving it from the Anglo-Saxon *camp*, signifying "battle." But we hesitate to believe that Penman is derived from *ben*, a wound, and prefer to consider the name of the amiable curator of the Soane Museum as connected with the idea of goodness, rather than place him in the same category with the Old German *Benno*, the wounder, or "the famous slayer" before mentioned.

Mr. Ferguson places no faith in the legends which pretend to account for the derivation of many of our most celebrated family names. He does not believe in the Turnbull who turned back the wild bull that ran against Robert the Bruce; nor, we presume, in the strong-backed Scot who won his name "when in the cleugh the buck was slain." And yet similar incidents must have given, and do at this day give rise, to appellations which become permanent and hereditary. In Turnbull and Buccleugh the legend still lives; in the millions to which such a legend once attached it has been lost.

The groundwork and starting-point of Mr. Ferguson's etymological system is the assumption that the old Teutonic appellations borne by the warriors of the many tribes whom Germany poured out to plunder Britain abandoned by the Romans, or who had found a yet earlier settlement on her shores, still live in the names current among the mass of the people. The English names which he has collected are all surnames, or those which, like the second element in disyllabic names of places, limit and define the individual, distinguishing him from others of the same genus. As second names of this kind came into general use in England not much earlier than the time of the Norman Conquest, it was necessary to give some explanation of the reason for assigning to the majority of them a very considerable

antiquity; and for this purpose Mr. Ferguson calls attention to what he considers to be their twofold origin.

They are derived in part from original surnames, and in part from ancient single or baptismal names. The term baptismal must be understood in a modified sense, as implying a name bestowed in infancy, and probably with some attendant rite or ceremony; for many of these names are in reality older than Christianity. The former of these two classes, of course, cannot be older than the period at which surnames became hereditary—a period not earlier than the Conquest, or, if earlier, only in some very exceptional cases. The latter, those derived from ancient baptismal names, may remount to the highest Teutonic antiquity. For these names were not, like surnames, coined as the occasion required, but handed down from generation to generation, perhaps even in some cases without any reference to their meaning.

To the antiquity of some of these names, indeed, Mr. Ferguson can assign no limits.

All we know is that, when the dim light of history first shows us the German tribes battling in their rude strength against the legions of imperial Rome, the names they bore were such as are current now. Among some of those mentioned by Tacitus are *Verritus*, a prince of the Frisians—the same, I take, as our Werritt and Verity. *Sigimer*, the father of *Arminius*, is the same as our Seymour, and *Segimund*, his brother-in-law, as our Sigmund and Simmons. *Arpus*, a prince of the Catti, is the same as our Harp—*Vibellius*, a general of the Hermanduri, as our Wippell. Then there are several compound names, as *Inguimér*, *Cariovalda*, *Marobodnus*, and *Malorix*, of which we may fairly suppose to have been the first in use. This leads me to remark that many of our short and simpler names are, as being such root-names, among the most ancient that we have. And not a few there are which, in the changes and chances of this mortal life, have become of small account, yet which were names of honour in the days—ay, and long before the days—when our Redeemer walked the earth. There is a name in the Directory, *Siggs*—it has no very distinguished sound, and its owner is but a worker in tin-plate—yet it is older than the *Sigimer* and the *Segimund* of Tacitus. *Nibbs* and *Nobbs* are not names which command respect, yet they are probably the parents of the *Nibelungs* renowned in German song, of the courtly *Nevilles*, and, according to a German writer, of the mighty Napoleon. Then there are other names apparently honourable, yet thrice honourable when their meaning is made clear. Thus *Arminger* has been supposed to be a corruption of *Armiger*—that is, "one entitled to bear arms." Entitled—ay, well entitled to bear arms! no Herald's College needs to furnish them—for he bears the spear of *Arminius*.

The path which Mr. Ferguson has here struck into is new, as far as the generality of English readers are concerned, and promises to lead to results of great interest, provided his assertions are borne out by his evidence. But, when we turn to the page which ought to furnish us with the evidence of the antiquity of *Siggs* of the Post-office Directory, we find nothing more satisfactory than the statement that there were an Old German *Sigo*, *Sico*, *Seggi*, and *Secki* in the fourth century, an Anglo-Saxon *Sigga* and an Old Norse *Sigi*, all derived from the root *sig* or *sic*, victory. Many names into which this root enters as a component naturally occur in the Anglo-Saxon and Old German dialects—*Sigebald*, *Sigeman*, *Sigefred*, &c., with which the English *Sibbald*, *Seymour*, and *Seffert* may not unreasonably be compared. But *Siggs* is supposed to be a diminutive of *Sig*, and the only connecting link afforded us is an Old German *Sigizo* of the tenth century. So little faith, however, does Mr. Ferguson put in *Siggs*, that he has included this name, with that of *Sykes*, under a note of interrogation in the very place where we expected to find a triumphant demonstration of its antiquity. As to *Nibbs* and *Nobbs*, we hear nothing more of them, and are left feebly to conjecture what may be the nature of that chain of evidence which connects Warwick the kingmaker with the heroes of the *Niebelungen Lied*. The Old German *Irminger* of the eighth century may have

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the meaning attributed to it by Mr. Ferguson, "Irmin-spear" (divine spear), and so, in some sense, be connected with Arminius; but the English Arminger is most probably a corruption either of Harbinger or of Armiger, though there is a horrid suspicion that it may be neither more nor less than a form of Ironmonger.

There can be no doubt as to the interesting and important nature of the subject which Mr. Ferguson has undertaken to investigate. Personal names, as he observes, not only have a philological value as containing words which have been lost in the whole cycle of the languages to which they belong—senses which have perished though the words are still extant, preserving the forms of ancient dialects and the transition between one dialect and another; they are also the reflex of a bygone age, and supply the place of monuments, telling of the life, the habits of thought, the manners and the customs of those who created or adopted them. Before we can view our modern English names in this light, we must be quite sure of their being the genuine representatives of the old forms which constitute the monuments of the past. Can we deal with a series of names taken from the London Directory in the nineteenth century as we can with a series of names from the Domesday Book? A flint knife found in a tumulus in Yorkshire tells a tale of the habits and status of the builders of the mound; but a flint knife found in a museum of curiosities, with no reliable history of its transmission, bears no archaeological value.

We shall return to this work in a future number.

## STONEWALL JACKSON.

*Life of Lieut.-General Thomas J. Jackson (Stone-wall Jackson).* By Professor R. L. Dabney, D.D., of Richmond, Virginia. (Nisbet & Co.)

THIS book—or, we should say, this half-book—for the narrative is broken short off at the end of the first year of the war—is provokingly disappointing. The author was, it appears, a personal friend of Jackson's—he had at his disposal all the materials left in the widow's hands, as well as free access to the papers of the Confederate War Department—and is quite able to write clearly and vigorously; but you rise from this memoir puzzled and annoyed. It is given to few men to write a good biography, but no man need neglect his materials, or waste his space; and Professor Dabney has done both. For he has only given us a few unimportant shreds of Jackson's letters and diary, while he has occupied sixty pages and upwards with his own theories on the right of secession, navigation laws, the tariffs, and "the chief sectional outrage aimed against the property of the Southern States in the labour of the African race, held to servitude within them." All this we could have read in the *Index*, if so minded; but we had a right to look in this book for General Jackson's views, and not his biographer's; and these, with all deference to Professor Dabney, who assures us that they were on all-fours with his own, we do not get.

Jackson was the man of all others who seemed to be on the wrong side in the great struggle. The first reports of his brilliant exploits as a soldier which reached us here came mingled with statements as to his habits and character which raised no common curiosity about him. We heard that he was a singularly devout soldier, of the best Puritan type, who fought in the faith that he was under the direct leading and inspiration of God, and wrestled with Him in prayer, daily and hourly, for guidance and victory. The appearance of such a man on the side of those who were fighting to perpetuate slavery was a strange phenomenon to all who held this to be the real question at issue. How had he met it? Had early habits and associations been so strong that one who made the Bible his constant and loving study had been able in our day passively to accept and acquiesce in the American system of slavery? If not—if he had ever been roused to face the

question fairly—what had the result been? Was it that he came to the conclusion that it was best to be silent where he was hopeless of overcoming the evil, or did he become an active admirer and supporter of the institution? Either alternative seemed equally strange for a man of this type. In any case, this was the point above all others on which light was needed to understand the man; and none is to be had from Dr. Dabney, unless we are prepared to believe that Jackson's creed was identical with that of his biographer.

This may be stated in a few words. Dr. Dabney holds that "American slavery has civilized the African more rapidly than *any other philanthropy* has raised any other Pagan race in the world;" that Christ "applauded slaveholders," and "uttered no word against this lawful relation." He asserts that slavery "has created an affectionate union between the races," and the like well-worn pleas. But, on all matters connected with slavery, we demur to him as a witness; for he states that there is no law in Virginia "forbidding a master to teach his slaves literature," when the revised code of 1849, as he knows, enacts that "every assemblage of negroes for the purposes of instruction in reading and writing shall be an unlawful assembly," and punishes blacks found in such meetings with stripes, and whites with six months' gaol, or a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars. He declares that white and black are equal before the law, though there are upwards of sixty crimes punishable with death when committed by blacks for which terms of imprisonment of from one to eighteen years are awarded to whites. He maintains

that the chastity of white and black women is protected "by the same sanctions," though a slave cannot give evidence against a white man. Again, as to secession, we have the old theory of the American constitution from the extreme States-rights point of view, and a special plea put forward for Virginia, that she made it a condition on entering the Union "that she should be for ever free to retract her adhesion whenever she found the Union inconvenient, of which juncture she was to be the sole judge;" in short, a very good partisan argument of Dr. Dabney's, but only one page of what Jackson did or thought during the critical winter months while Virginia was still unresolved. We do not even know whether he resigned his United States commission; and the only facts of interest which we can gather as to the crisis are, that he was one of those who tried to unite "the Christian people," North and South, in an effort to stop the war, and, having failed in this, maintained that "it was the true policy of the South to take no prisoners," as "the war was an offence against humanity so monstrous that it outlawed those who shared its guilt beyond the pale of forbearance." Jackson, when his advice was overruled, was, we believe, as humane as other generals; and it is quite possible that he who was joining in prayer with his enemies one day might advocate no quarter on the next. But we have not the clue to his character in this book which might help us to understand and reconcile such apparent inconsistencies.

We must wait then for further light before we shall get any but a superficial acquaintance with one of the greatest soldiers to whom the state of Virginia has given birth, fruitful as she has been in able captains. Meantime, the story of his life given in this book is interesting as far as it goes. Jackson came of a wealthy Virginian family, the founder of which emigrated to Virginia in 1748. His father was a spendthrift, and died when he was a child. His mother followed in 1830, leaving Thomas an orphan seven years of age. He was taken in by a maternal aunt, Mrs. Brake, with whose husband he quarrelled at the age of eight. He walked off to another relative, answering all questions by the simple formula, "Uncle Brake and I don't agree; I have quit him, and shall not go back any more." To which resolution he steadfastly adhered, and at last found an

asylum in the home of a strange bachelor uncle, one Cummins Jackson, who kept race-horses, and made his nephew a famous jockey, and taught him field-sports and wood-craft, so that at sixteen he was a noted driver of oxen and transporter of huge trees through the forests to the saw-mills. His education in other respects was much neglected. At seventeen he was appointed constable of Lewis county, notwithstanding his minority—a sort of clerk and collector of debts to the county-court, which office he quitted when eighteen on an appointment to the Military Academy of West Point in 1841. Here he had found his vocation, and worked resolutely at his studies. At the end of his first half-year, in consequence of his previous want of education, he only just escaped discharge for incompetency, the line being drawn just below him; but in every succeeding year he steadily improved his position, and, in the final year (4th), stood 12th in engineering, 5th in ethics, 11th in artillery, 21st in infantry tactics, and 11th in mineralogy and geology. Eleven of the generals in the great war were his classmates, including McClellan, Stoneman, A. P. Hill, and Wilcox. His sturdiness of purpose and honesty came out strongly at West Point. He was often several days behind the rest of his class, and, when called upon, would answer that he had not yet reached the day's lesson, but was employed on a previous one. Thus whatever he learnt was learnt thoroughly; and he graduated in June 1846—an accomplished soldier, poor, ambitious, twenty-two years of age, six feet high, and of great physical strength, though delicate in constitution.

The Mexican war was in progress, and he at once received his commission as lieutenant of artillery, and joined General Scott's expedition, which marched from Vera Cruz in March 1847. In the first action, the assault of the fortified position of Cerro-Gordo—planned by Captain, now General, Robert E. Lee—the battery of Captain Magruder was highly distinguished. Magruder was known as a stern martinet, and a glutton in fighting. Young officers in general disliked serving under him. Jackson applied for the post of his second lieutenant, obtained it, won the confidence of his chief, was mentioned in general orders at Cherubusco, fought the gun which decided the battle of Chapultepec before the gates of Mexico with one sergeant—the rest of his men being killed, wounded, or crouching in the ditch, over which he had dragged the piece by hand when all his horses were shot—and received his brevet majority from General Scott as a reward for gallant conduct. Thus, in seven months, by dint of hard fighting, he had risen from second lieutenant to brevet-major—more rapid promotion than was gained by any other officer in that campaign.

Jackson enjoyed the Spanish society of the city of Mexico thoroughly, and made good use of his time there by acquiring the Spanish language. Like our own Wolfe, he never missed an opportunity of carrying on his education, and was equally indomitable in his pursuit of knowledge. Of Latin he knew nothing, as it was not taught at West Point. The only Spanish grammar he could get was in that tongue; but he carried his point. On his return, after eighteen months' service in garrison, he was elected, in 1851, Professor in the Military College of Virginia, at Lexington, which position he held until the breaking out of the present war.

His general health had been shaken by campaigning, and he was threatened with blindness. To meet these ailments, he laid down the most rigid rules as to diet, to which he adhered with his usual tenacity. He would never read at night, and so had recourse to a peculiar method of study. After his morning's lectures, he carefully read over the text of his subjects for the next day, and, after an early supper, set to work to master them in the dark, without lamp, book, or diagram, walking about his room, or seated with his face to the wall. His powers of abstraction and concentration

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throve wonderfully under this discipline, and stood him in good stead afterwards in the command of armies. At Lexington Jackson, who had for some time been seriously exercised on religious subjects, was baptised by an Episcopalian clergyman, and ultimately joined the Presbyterian communion. In his religion, as in all things else, he was honest and thorough, and a soldier to the backbone, treating his parson as "a captain in God's host," and obeying orders, even when they compelled him to lead the congregation in prayer, in which exercise, after several painful failures, he attained marked success. He became a deacon, and was exemplary in the military regularity of his "reports" to his pastor. On one occasion his duty was to collect subscriptions for the Bible Society from certain members of the congregation whose names were given him by the clerk. On delivering his "report" (as he persisted in calling it), the clergyman remarked a number of additional names written in pencil at the foot of the list, with small sums opposite them. "What are these?" asked the Doctor. "Those at the top are your regulars," answered Jackson, "and those below are my militia." He had collected these sums from the free blacks. The power which his faith exercised over his life may be summed up in his own words, which his biographer has fortunately given us. A friend was questioning him as to his belief in a special Providence, and his habit of constant prayer.

"When I take a draught of water, I always pause, as my palate receives the refreshment, to lift up my heart to God in thanks, and prayer for the water of life. Whenever I drop a letter into the box, I send a petition along with it for God's blessing upon its mission, and upon the person to whom it is sent. When I break the seal of a letter, I stop to pray to Him to prepare me for its contents, and make it a messenger of good. When I go to my class-room, and await the arrangement of the cadets in their places, that is my time to intercede with God for them. And so of every other familiar act of the day."

Not an ordinary brevet-major or lecturer this, and a dangerous kind of man to encounter in the field or elsewhere. America has produced one other such in late years, Captain John Brown, who died on a Virginian scaffold in December 1859, for whom Dr. Dabney has no better word than "Border assassin" and "vulgar cut-throat." Jackson was present at the execution with his cadets, "and gave his friends a graphic account of the scene, and of the stoical death of the old murderer." We would give something for that account, which Dr. Dabney has altogether omitted. Faithfully recorded, it might furnish the clue by which we might get to know the man Thomas Jackson, who at present remains, to us at least, an enigma and a shadow.

We shall defer our notice of Jackson as a general till the publication of the second volume of this Life, merely advising those who sneer at the panic of Bull's Run to read how for four hours victory hung in the balance, and the scale was only turned by Jackson and his men "standing like a stone wall." Out of his brigade of 2700, he lost on that day 112 killed and 393 wounded. But, even in these first days of the mighty struggle, we can appreciate the marvellous power of Jackson as a general. Skilful, cautious, indefatigable, never leaving anything to chance, secret in council, swift in execution, with a thorough reliance on himself and belief often repeated "that he could accomplish whatever he willed to do," and a thorough reliance in God, who would come to his help in all that was beyond human foresight, he brought to the South a power equal to a dozen battalions; and of him, even more truly than of his namesake and relative old Hickory, the last great President of the United States, it may be said, in the words of Ezekiel Biglow:—

"He couldn't see but jest one side;  
If his, 'twas God's, and that was plenty;  
And so his 'forrards' multiplied  
An army's fighting power by twenty." T. H.

## Oswald Cray.

*Oswald Cray.* By Mrs. Henry Wood. (Edinburgh: A. & C. Black.)

If Mrs. Henry Wood had done nothing else as a novelist, she would still be entitled to the credit of having proved that two qualities which used to be thought incompatible may be sometimes found in conjunction. She is at once amusing and prosy. It is never an impossibility to get through one of her books, but at the same time the reader always wishes he could throw overboard a good deal of unnecessary ballast. Unfortunately, the least attractive of the two characteristics seems, on the whole, to be increasing. With the exception of "Lord Oakburn's Daughters," which was relieved by the originality of its plot, nothing that she has written has been so good as her first novel; and, notwithstanding our recollections of "Verner's Pride," we are disposed to put "Oswald Cray" last in order of merit as well as in order of time. Mrs. Wood's successes and failures may, perhaps, be attributed to one and the same cause. She has an extraordinary affection for small details, and, up to a certain point, her attachment is perfectly well placed. When wisely used, they impart additional reality to a story, and give immense assistance to the reader in forming a clear conception of the people with which it is concerned. But then there must be some care displayed in the selection of them. All facts have not an equal value as illustrations of human character; and the fault we have to find with Mrs. Wood is that she persists in assuming that they have. Take, for example, her descriptions of women's dress. We quite agree with her in thinking that the insertion of them may add great life and vividness to the portrait of a heroine; but then they must aim at reproducing in the mind of the reader something of that general effect which exists in the mind of the writer. In other words, they must be real descriptions, not a mere inventory of the contents of the heroine's wardrobe. In Mrs. Wood's hands, however, they approach very closely to this latter type. Here are only a few of the instances which occur in "Oswald Cray":—"Caroline's morning robe was of white muslin and blue ribbons." "Caroline wore the same rich dress that she had worn in the afternoon, but the high body had been exchanged for a low one, the custom for dinner at Dr. Davenal's." No doubt, if the reader were a young lady going to stay at the house for a day or two, and uncertain what gowns she should take with her, this last piece of information might be of some service, otherwise it is difficult to see what is the precise good it is to do him. So with the other heroine. "Sara is in evening dress, a black gauze with a little white net quilling on the low body and sleeves." Or, again, "Sara wears a black crape robe—a little edging of white only on its low body and sleeves." Details of this kind might, perhaps, be interesting to people who know the wearer of the garments in question, and had possibly seen her in them already; and they would, therefore, be quite appropriate in a letter from one young lady to another, of which the subject was the appearance, on a given occasion, of a common friend. In that case, the latter, on being informed that "dear Emily wore that sweet silk," would be able to combine the subject and the predicate, and thus obtain a distinct idea of the "dear Emily" in the "sweet silk." But the male, and therefore ignorant, reader needs to have his imagination assisted and some clearer notion conveyed to him of the effect of this happy combination.

Nor, again, is every incident which may occur in real life suitable for the purposes of fiction. The art of the novelist is especially shown in the work of selection and combination. Mrs. Wood, however, seems quite satisfied that, so long as she is reproducing facts, she is doing all that can be required of her. A great part of "Oswald Cray" is devoted to the treachery of Dr. Davenal's servant, and for some time we are constantly on the

look-out for some disastrous consequence which is to flow from his unpleasant habits of reading letters, opening desks, secreting papers, and inventing false charges. But, in the end, nothing comes of it all. His villainy is simply purposeless, and the only reason Mrs. Wood can assign for giving so much space to the narration of it is that it "is but the simple truth—the recital of an episode in real life." She forgets that in fiction we look for something more satisfactory than the half-knowledge with which we are often obliged to put up when we are dealing with actual events. We expect to see the connexion between actions and motives made plain, and the moral history of crime traced out. Without this, a novel would have no more interest than a report of a trial at the assizes, with the additional disadvantage of being only an invention after all. It is this newspaper style of writing which Mrs. Wood seems especially to aim at; and some parts of "Oswald Cray" might have been taken almost verbatim from the notebook of a penny-a-liner during the dull season. Thus, in describing a railway accident, she takes occasion to explain, with most unnecessary minuteness, how the news of its occurrence was delayed in its passage to the next station. And this is the fashion in which she does it:—

The telegraph clerk was a young man named James Eales. It was his duty to receive the messages, and in due course he ought to have received the one from Hildon, signifying that the expected train (called in familiar terms at Hallingham the seven o'clock train, though it came in five minutes sooner) had duly quitted Hildon. This message was due somewhere about twenty-three minutes to seven, and it came this evening as usual quite punctually. No sooner had it been received than James Eales, who wanted to absent himself for a short while on an errand to the town, asked one of the men to take his place. Other messages might be expected, relating to the trains, not to speak of private messages, always liable to come: and the man took the place accordingly. As Eales was going out, the man, whose name was Williams, called after him to know whether the train was signalled. Eales thought he meant the down-train, whose signal was nearly due, and replied, "No, not yet." But, in point of fact, Williams had alluded to the up-train from Hildon, which had been signalled. That man was an accurate time-keeper; it wanted two or three minutes yet to the signalling of the down-train, and he would not have been likely, from this very accuracy, to inquire whether that message had come, it not being due. Eales, who did not possess the like innate accuracy, and was besides in a hurry to depart, confused the question, and took it to allude to the down-train.

Now, even if this mistake of the clerk's had really caused the accident, this would be an absurdly verbose way of telling the story. But, as it happens, it has simply no connexion with it, and the whole of this wonderful paragraph is apparently introduced solely for the sake of the moral lesson with which it concludes.

It is through these mistakes, which are caused half by carelessness, half by what may be almost called unavoidable misapprehension, that accidents occur. *It did not lead to the accident in this case* [the italics, to borrow Mrs. Wood's newspaper style, are our own], but it has led to many a one. Williams ought to have said, "Is the up-train signalled?" Saying what he did say, "Is the train signalled?" Eales should have answered, "The up-train is signalled, not the down."

Mrs. Wood does not content herself, however, with giving extracts from imaginary newspapers: she turns to good account her cuttings from real ones, and actually introduces the death of the Prince Consort into her narrative of the fatal illness of one of her heroines. As thus:—

"Is there any fresh news, sir?"  
"Yes, and it is not good," he replied. "Report says that a telegram has been received from Windsor stating that there is no hope; that the Prince is rapidly sinking."

His voice was low, his manner subdued, and raised his hat with unconscious reverence while he gave the answer. Walton lost her breath.

"It may not be true, sir! It may not be true!"

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"I trust, indeed, it is not."

"But, sir, was there not hope this afternoon?"  
"According to the report that reached us there was. Could the Prince only bear up this one night all would be well."

More than ten pages in all are devoted to this subject. If the object were to fill up space, we should call this sort of writing book-making of the lowest order; but, as each of the three volumes is considerably beyond the customary length, we are forced to suppose that the author imagines that her work is thereby invested with the dignity of an historical romance.

We should not speak thus severely of "Oswald Cray" if Mrs. Wood had not already shown herself capable of something very different. But it would be doing a real unkindness to the author of "East Lynne" to allow her to waste her undoubted talents in the way she has done in the present work without at least making an effort to arrest her downward progress. For the faults we have pointed out are not in this instance redeemed by any counterbalancing merits. It is impossible to take any interest in the characters of the story, except perhaps in Sara Davenal,—and in her only because we are told that she has the marvellous gift of being able to take her seat in a crowded omnibus "with quiet self-possession;" while, for Oswald Cray himself, every reader must feel a dislike approaching closely to detestation. He suspects a man of the highest character, whom he has known all his life, of committing a cold-blooded murder; and he breaks off his engagement with Miss Davenal, not for any fault of her own, but simply because he cherishes this groundless distrust of her father. It is true that at length he discovers his mistake, as, by a very little trouble, he might have done at the beginning, and graciously takes the young lady back into his affections; but even then he is only sorry that he should have been mistaken, not in the least penitent for having acted basely. And yet, notwithstanding all this, we are constantly hearing of his noble pride, his grand self-reliance, his scorn of everything mean or dishonourable; so that our natural dislike is immeasurably increased by finding that he is presented to us as a hero. In some of her other works Mrs. Wood has been decidedly happy in the humorous characters; but this element is almost entirely wanting in "Oswald Cray." Perhaps it was considered undesirable that a story which originally appeared in a semi-religious periodical should have too large an infusion of the comic element. We regret the omission, because Mrs. Benn, the house-keeper at Oswald Cray's chambers, shows considerable capacity of being amusing, if we were allowed to become more intimate with her. In one respect, we are bound to admit, Mrs. Wood shows signs of improvement: she writes less stilted English. She still occasionally makes her heroes and heroines say "deem," when the rest of the world would say "think," but this is now only the exception, instead of being, as formerly, the rule. Perhaps, after a time, she may even learn that, in speaking of a clergyman, it is not customary to call him the "Reverend Mr. Stephenson."

### MACEDONIA.

*Through Macedonia to the Albanian Lakes.* By Mary A. Walker. (Chapman and Hall.)

THIS very readable and prettily-illustrated, though slightly-written volume is from the pen of an English lady, who had previously resided some years in Constantinople and had become familiar with Turkish habits. In 1860 her brother accepted the chaplaincy of the English community of Salonica, whither she accompanied him, and whence she made the trip described in these pages. She passed westwards, through Monastir, to the source of the Drin, in the lake Ochrida, a distance of about 150 miles, and returned back to Salonica by a somewhat varied route. This country has been thoroughly described by Leake, and many other subsequent travellers

of learning; but we believe the present volume is the first narrative of a simple tourist in those parts, who, appropriating from solid writers their most effective results, blends them, with her own off-hand impressions, into a pleasant and graphic narrative.

Miss Walker left Constantinople in a Russian steamer whose commercial utility is secondary to its political importance of maintaining a correspondence between Athos and other centres of Russian intrigue. The town of Salonica has many peculiarities. Its inhabitants are Jews, Turks, and Christians, in pretty equal proportions, but the Jews are the most important class. With the exception of a single family of very wealthy Anglo-Levantine merchants, the Jews hold in their hands almost all the commerce and industry of this the third commercial town of the Turkish empire. The men are inferior to the women; they are unrefined in their manners, and affect an outward appearance of poverty, while they have but few ideas beyond the accumulation of wealth. Their wives are of a different position in society. They are mostly Jewesses from Florence, comparatively well educated before they left their native city, where they were betrothed in their infancy. They are allowed by their husbands every luxury they desire, and are faithful to their otherwise uncongenial homes. The Jews are a hard-working people in Salonica. They make goat's-hair sackcloth, carpets, and gold and silver brocade, besides carrying on an extensive manufacture of silk-winding. The town is frightfully unhealthy from aguish fever, which clings for years to the unhappy patient with a tenacious grip. The European burial-ground has an undue proportion of children's graves.

Leaving Salonica, the traveller requires an escort, and has to rough it at night in a khan, or to take his chance of the humble accommodation of some private house. Our authoress henceforward revels in that source of enjoyment in Eastern travel, the constant delight to the eye of rich and varied colouring, picturesque costumes, and effective groups. The incidents of the road are long strings of camels—each invariably led by a donkey—droves of laden horses and mules, and creaking buffalo-carts. A gay party gallops by under the escort of a showy guard of Cavasses—they are "graineurs" from France, who collect silk-worms' eggs. You enter a house and see, on one of its beams, a hawk perched with his hood and bells. Everywhere the dresses of the people, as may be seen in the beautifully coloured lithographs in the volume, are unusually bright. One picture represents a Bulgarian bride dressed in flaming scarlet, and everywhere there is profusion of colour. The tourist's way now lies in full view of Mount Olympus as he passes along the Vadar river, whose backwaters swarm with leeches—here, as elsewhere, an important article of trade to Turkey. The buffaloes, when carelessly allowed to drink in these muddy pools, are not unfrequently killed by the leeches. They fasten on the animal's glottis when he tries to swallow them, and suffocate him.

Pella is now passed, and then the surpassingly beautiful Vodena. Its masses of walnut-trees, chesnut and mulberry plantations, vineyards and fields of maize, spread so rich a carpet of luxuriant vegetation that the eye seemed to bathe in its freshness. The masses of the majestic Pindus stand out in a dark projecting cliff, half hidden by tangled foliage, through which streams of dashing water gleam at intervals in their descent. Vodena is a city of running streams. Water rushes headlong down the middle of all the streets, gushing out into fountains at every turn, and finally tumbles into the plain below in many a wild cascade, where it diffuses fertility and is almost wholly lost in evaporation. The lake district of Western Turkey may be considered to begin at Vodena. The first of the lakes is Ostrovo, whose waters have recently varied in their height, owing to some subterranean influence. It is even

asserted that the lake is altogether of recent formation.

Monastir is a very rising town. It has become a central telegraph-station, and is daily gaining in importance. The female élite are beginning to wear erinoline, though they still ride astride their saddles with an effect easy to imagine. The chief merchants are Wallachian by descent, who have all resided for years at Vienna; but, on their return to Monastir, they throw off German civilization, in food as in everything else, and resort to beans and garlic stewed in sheep's fat and flavoured with cinnamon and pepper. All their crockery is our old willow-tree pattern. Monastir is a famed place for gold and silver filagree.

Continuing westwards, the country becomes more lawless, and the open murder of Christians by Turks is not uncommon. During the last three years there have been thirty such cases in Ochrida. The Turks usually escape scot-free, but no mercy is ever shown to Christians who dare raise their hand against a Turk. Ochrida is well placed on the shores of its lake, twenty by twelve miles long, which, lying in an upland basin and receiving no affluents beyond mere streamlets, is the source of the Drin. Ochrida is a great place for dressing furs and making up pelisses. The skins are sent from Leipzig market, and are to be seen in many of the large houses hanging across long poles in a current of air to keep away moths. It is a wonderful station for fishing, and seems to offer very recommendable quarters to an enthusiastic angler. Lake trout are speared, and eels are trapped in enormous quantities and are salted and sent to Servia and the Danubian provinces. The fishing season lasts only two months, May and June. The art of cooking fish in various ways is practised here in considerable perfection. Ochrida was the farthest point reached by the authoress. She returned by the monastery of St. Naum, whither lunatics are sent in the hope of cure under a treatment of vinegar and water, strict confinement, and attendance on the tomb of St. Naum. Passing Geortcha, she reached the curious lake of Castoria. Its waters are not unfrequently discoloured by subaqueous eruptions, which at the same time kill most of the fish. An immense scaleless fish caught here is said to weigh up to 250 lbs.

There are several little inaccuracies in the volume, but we will only protest against one of them—namely, where the authoress gravely informs us that the height of Mount Athos is such that the sun is said to be visible from the summit of the peak four hours before it is seen from the base of the mountain. At the equator, during the equinox, such a phenomenon would take place when the altitude of the mountain was equal to the earth's radius, say 4000 miles, and at the latitude of Mount Athos, at various seasons, the effect, though different, would be at least commensurate. Moreover, as the summer night in Athos is about nine hours' duration, an increased daylight of four hours morning and evening would have its peak bathed in sunshine for twenty-three hours out of the twenty-four.

Miss Walker concludes her volume with some pleasant expressions towards the Turks. They fall with a weight proportioned to her long acquaintance with them, and to her by no means biased judgment in other points of their character. She confirms what we have always heard, that they show great kindness and gentleness of feeling towards little children, and that the respect they exhibit to their aged parents is beyond all praise.

### SHAKESPEARE IN ONE VOLUME.

*The Globe Edition. The Works of William Shakespeare.* Edited by William George Clark and William Aldis Wright. (Macmillan & Co.)

IT was in a single volume that the plays of Shakespeare first saw the light in a collected form, the text being left to interpret itself. The glorious old folio of 1623 of "Mr. William Shakespeare's Comedies,

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Histories, and Tragedies, published according to the true original Copies," is the prototype of all the one-volume editions of his works. We have no accepted text of the great dramatist. The "squire" of New Place, during the last three years of his life, seems to have cast no lingering look behind him on the stage he had quitted. Beyond his signature we have not a scrap of his handwriting, and, during his lifetime, besides the few impressions of some of the separate plays, evidently little else than "the book of the play," to be sold within the walls of the theatre during the performance, not one of his great masterpieces was seen by himself through the press. Strange, too, that we have no original play-bills of the performances of the players at the Globe or at the theatre in Whitefriars, seeing that the fact of play-bills being printed by English performers at the period in which he flourished is placed beyond doubt by one issued in Germany by an itinerant company of English comedians of his day, with whom it has been attempted to associate him by some recent critics, which is preserved in the town-library of Nuremberg. A fac-simile of this literary curiosity will be given in Mr. Cohn's forthcoming volume of "Shakespeare in Germany," some of the sheets of which we have been permitted to inspect. The performers there undertake to give representations daily, punctually at two o'clock, of comedies, histories, tragedies, and drolls—a subdivision of plays which has a true Shakespearian ring about it.

The first folio of Shakespeare's plays was followed by three, or rather four, re-issues; the third edition, to which seven plays, including "Pericles" and six spurious dramas, were added in the second issue by way of appendix, appearing first without them in 1663, and with them in 1664. The fourth edition, also containing the seven additional plays, appeared in 1685. During the hundred years following no edition of the separate text was published till Ayscough printed it in a single volume in 1784, to accompany his verbal index of the same date, both of which were reprinted in 1806-1807. In 1806, also, appeared an edition of the text in two volumes in royal octavo, as companion to the eight volumes of "Ancient and Modern British Drama," edited by Sir Walter Scott, and published at Edinburgh. Rowe's text, with glossarial notes, was given in a single volume in 1818, which appears to have revived a taste for editions of the simple text, that of Johnson and Stevens appearing in 1819 in two volumes in royal octavo, and also in a pocket volume in duodecimo. Other one-volume editions of this text followed in 1821 and 1823, in which year also appeared "The Plays of William Shakespeare, accurately printed from the text of corrected copies left by Stevens and Malone; with a Sketch of his Life, and a Glossary," edited by Alexander Chalmers, and known as the "Trade Edition," long the best and most accurate of the single-volume editions, frequently reprinted from its stereotype plates, the last issue bearing date of this present year 1864.

Whittingham's "diamond type" pocket edition was published in 1823, and, strange as it may appear, omitted altogether the "Midsummer's Night's Dream." This was afterwards added, and, in the numerous re-prints of this popular edition, it will be found in its place. The first imperfect edition is still treasured by collectors of curious books as evidence of the careless manner of production of some books, even as Hodge's razors, rather for sale than for use. We pass over without mention several other single-volume editions of the text, got up on this principle, most of which have fallen into merited oblivion.

In 1826 appeared Corrall's accurate pocket diamond edition in duodecimo, one of the most elegant of the late Mr. Pickering's publications, who re-issued it with a new title in 1831. From 1831 to 1861, a period of thirty years, Shakespeare in a single volume became daily in greater demand, and, exclu-

sive of American and Continental editions, no less than some twenty varieties, in octavo and duodecimo, kept the market supplied. Of these our limits do not allow us to speak, and we hasten on to the Tercentenary movement among the publishers, which will be found noticed at considerable length in our April numbers of the present year. Since then we have had Mrs. Cowden Clarke's "Red Line Edition," printed at Edinburgh; Mr. Glassford Bell's carefully collated text from Mr. Collins of Glasgow; a complete copy of the works in duodecimo, published at two shillings; and, besides several expurgated editions, that which is placed at the head of this article, and which is deservedly to be looked upon as the best and most useful of all reference editions of Shakespeare hitherto produced.

The text usually followed is that of the Cambridge Edition of the same editors, the merits of which have been fully discussed from time to time in the pages of THE READER as the separate volumes appeared. As, however, the two editions differ in plan—the one recording in foot-notes all the various readings and conjectural emendations, the other giving only the text—we are thus presented with that reading which critics so well qualified as Messrs. Clark and Wright by adoption pronounce to be the best. There is no attempt at hasty conjecture. Whenever the original text has been corrupted in such a way as to affect the sense, no admissible emendation having been proposed, or whenever a lacuna occurs too great to be filled up with any approach to certainty by conjecture, the passage is marked with an obelus (†). As in the Cambridge Edition, the lines of each scene are numbered, for the greater facility of reference, and the stage-directions, in most cases, follow the oldest texts. These old stage-directions are not unfrequently important aids to the elucidation of a corrupted passage in the text. An admirable glossary has been added by the Rev. J. M. Jephson, of King's College, London.

The work is elegantly printed with new type, cast on purpose, upon paper manufactured expressly for it, which has the appearance of India paper both in tone and texture, and the binding is thoroughly chaste and elegant from its simplicity. As to price, the book is every way a marvel. The public cannot fail to verify the prediction of the concluding paragraph of the preface:

We trust that the title which has been chosen for the present edition will neither be thought presumptuous nor be found inappropriate. It seems, indeed, safe to predict that any volume which presents, in a convenient form, with clear type, and at a moderate cost, the complete works of the foremost man in all literature, the greatest master of the language most widely spoken among men, will make its way to the remotest corners of the habitable globe.

### VON BAER'S DISCOURSES.

*Discourses before Scientific Bodies, and Minor Essays.* By Dr. Karl Ernst von Baer.

*Reden gehalten in wissenschaftlichen Versammlungen und kleinere Aufsätze vermischt mit Inhalten.* Von Dr. Karl Ernst v. Baer. (St. Petersburg.)

A FAMOUS investigator and writer—one whose researches are models for the inquirer, and whose generalizations have had a deeper influence upon the progress of the biological sciences than those of any man of his time—is employing the calm evening of a long life in collecting together the less abstruse essays and discourses which he has, from time to time, addressed to audiences of a scientific or semi-scientific character.

Of these the present volume contains seven—as various in point of date as of subject. The first is entitled "Johann Swammerdam's Life and Scientific Services;" and how it came to be the subject of Prosector von Baer's inaugural discourse in the year 1817 is explained in a charming little auto-biographical prefatory note. The next is upon "The most General Law of Nature in

all Development," and was delivered in 1834; the third, "A Sketch of the Development of Science," in the following year, after the author's migration to St. Petersburg. The fourth, "On the Distribution of Organic Life," appeared in 1838. The fifth, "Which Conception of Living Nature is right? and How is this Conception to be applied to Entomology?" was addressed to the Russian Entomological Society in 1860. Of the last two essays, the one is a "Gratulations-schrift" addressed to Soemmering in 1828, and the other an address moving the adjournment of the first sitting of the Petersburg Academy, which took place after the news of the death of Alexander von Humboldt.

All these essays are full of thought and worthy of careful study; but that which, at the present moment, will perhaps attract attention more than any other is the second. In a prefatory note Von Baer remarks:—

Although the general result of this essay had always been before my mind, seeing that it now forms one of those convictions which I have derived from the study of nature, yet the details had disappeared from my recollection. I was therefore surprised, when, after a long interval, I perused this discourse for the present reprint, to find the view, that organic forms change with the lapse of time and the succession of generations, but that their mutability is restricted within definite limits, as I still believe to be the case plainly expressed in it. . . . However, I have not the least intention of setting up any claims to priority with regard to the so-called Darwinian theory. Indeed, every naturalist who, like myself, has passed through a long life, knows that the question of the permanency or the variability of species has often been discussed, and that the boldest hypotheses have not uncommonly been devised upon this subject. There are probably few among the older naturalists who have not read Lamarck's "Philosophie Zoologique." What is the reason, then, that Darwin's hypothesis—more it can hardly be called, since its propounder himself admits that it is not demonstrated by paleontology—excites just now so much joyful attention, as though people felt themselves relieved from the burden of an Alp which had rested upon biological science? I propose to consider this hypothesis and the question just raised in a special essay, which is destined to appear in the second volume of this collection.

We await with great interest the promised discussion; but, in the meantime, it appears to us that a brief notice of the contents of the essay, to which this note is prefixed, may tend to throw some light upon the matter.

After sketching, in a few masterly phrases, that constant change, that infinite series of successive and contemporaneous deaths and new births which make up the life, alike of the individual and of the organic world; and pointing out that the separateness of successive generations is only apparent—a veritable continuity of physical substance really connecting the latest produced animal or plant with its remotest ancestor—Von Baer inquires into the nature of species, and concludes that a species "comprises all those individuals which agree with one another in such a manner that they may be conceived to have sprung by propagation from a single stock." And to these he adds, by implication, the well-known test of sterility.

He then discusses, with great clearness, the effects of variability and the possibility of rendering variations permanent by selective breeding; and the well-known case of the guinea-pig, the original stock of which is believed to be an animal—the *Cavia aperea* of Linnaeus—widely different from it in many respects, though the guinea-pig has not been domesticated more than three centuries, is adduced to show what changes may be worked in a species by the modification of conditions.

With this and other examples of modifiability before him, Von Baer asks "whether the different forms which we are accustomed to consider as distinct species may not have arisen by gradual modification out of one another, and only appear different because our experience is too short to serve as a measure of the change."

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The facts of geographical distribution are next regarded by the light of this new idea; and Von Baer inquires whether the fact that all the monkeys of America have one sort of nose, and all those of the Old World another—that the cameline quadrupeds of the Old World have humps, and those of the New World none—that the equine creatures of Africa are striped, and those of Asia are unstriped,—do not suggest that there is some sort of family relationship among these dwellers upon a common soil. And, following out his inquiry logically to its extreme limits, our author finally arrives at the perilous question, Might man, then, after all, have resulted from the modification of an orang-utan?

Palaeontology is ransacked for evidence. The greater similarity of the more recent, than of the more ancient, fossils to the existing forms of life is recognised, and the Asiatic elephant and the Lithuanian bison are admitted to be possibly the lineal descendants of the *Elephas primigenius* and *Bison priscus*. To the difficulty offered by the absence of transitional forms in the fossil condition full weight is attached, but not sufficient to hinder the following general conclusion:—

We must conclude, so far as observation has yet yielded materials for reasoning, that, very probably, a metamorphosis of certain primitive forms of animals, through a long series of generations, has taken place; though this metamorphosis has always been limited in extent. . . . As the child sees only permanent children in his play-fellows, and speaks of his own growth without a suspicion of his immortality; so science, in its first childlike condition, believes that organic bodies have a certain permanence, but soon sees that individuals are fleeting, and only persist by reproduction, and, when it calls to its aid the history of the past, perceives that the species, or series of generations are no less transitory.

What, then, is permanent? Von Baer replies, the fundamental thought which underlies all organic nature—the gradual progression of the physical towards the psychical, the subjection of the material to the spiritual—or, in other words, of the universe to man and of man to the worthiest.

The history of nature is only the history of the gradual victory of spirit over matter. That is the fundamental thought of the creation, and for its satisfaction—not for its attainment—individuals and species are allowed to vanish, and the present is built upon the foundation of an immeasurable past.

A noble picture! But it is just because this, like other speculations of the same epoch, is only a picture—the vision of a scientific seer who cannot tell us how, or why, his prophetic insight is to be verified—that it, like them, remained without influence upon the progress of science.

That which is wanting here, as in the far less scientific speculations of De Maillet, of Lamarck, and of the author of the "Vestiges," is the clear indication of a physical cause, competent to produce the events, the order and connexion of which are so well imagined. The mind is as little satisfied by being told that the phenomena of organic life are the manifestation of a fundamental thought (*Grund-gedanke*) of the Creator, as it is by the suggestion that they are the product of the operation of some unknown law of nature. Each of these statements is, in fact, merely a roundabout way of saying that we know nothing about the matter, and serves the purpose of the clay which Indians eat to deaden, when they cannot satisfy their wants, leaving the mental hunger really untouched. It is this want which the "Origin of Species" offers to satisfy by the means of the great doctrine of "natural selection;" and hence the "joyful attention," seemingly so incomprehensible to Von Baer, with which it has been received by men of science, whose "Alp" it may not have always removed, but who have been led by it to acquire a firm faith that the Alp is, at any rate, moveable.

## CHRISTMAS STORIES.

*Mrs. Lirriper's Legacy* (Chapman and Hall); *A Bunch of Keys* (Groombridge); *Tenants at Will* (Chambers); *Ye Christmas Number of London Society*; *Beeton's Christmas Annual* (Beeton); *Comic News Christmas Box*.

IT is difficult to say why the public taste should be supposed to evince a disposition, about Christmas time, to peruse collections of somewhat trivial stories, set, for the most part, in a more or less clever framework of more or less improbable circumstances. The idea of a framework of some sort, depending usually upon the occurrence of some incident which renders the relation of a series of tales not altogether unlikely, is old enough—as old as the "Arabian Nights." Chaucer and Boccaccio adopted it; and, in our own day, it was revived by Mr. Dickens in one of the chapters of "Pickwick." The device, we confess, has always seemed to us a somewhat inartistic one. It is *vraisemblable* enough when the scene is laid in the East, where the art of story-telling has been systematically cultivated; but we can hardly bring ourselves to imagine a party of English people, when snowed up, or upset, or burnt out, setting gravely to work to relate a string of stories to one another. Howbeit, Mr. Dickens set the example some years ago (in his very clever "Seven Poor Travellers," if we recollect right) of giving the public, as a Christmas treat, a mosaic of stories arranged after this time-honoured fashion; and since then, not only the journal which he himself conducts, but a host of others, have annually produced "Christmas Numbers," in which the old pattern has been invariably, with more or less important variations, adhered to. In some instances, however—as in some of the works before us—the framework is altogether dispensed with, and the stories, poetry, &c., simply follow one another without any connecting link; while, in more than one instance, the collection is independent, and does not form a number of any periodical work.

We have now been so long accustomed to the appearance of these Christmas stories that we—as well, probably, as most readers—have formed some sort of theory as to what a Christmas story should be like. We expect something either fantastic, touching, or simply laughable; something either hovering on the verge of the horrible, or something which will go near to move us to tears, or will quite shake our sides; but, somehow, we hardly expect to be really frightened or seriously affected. We want the ghost to be a placable ghost, and the lovers to be made happy; and if the latter are unreal lovers, so much the better. The child-lovers in one of Mr. Dickens's stories were quite real enough for a Christmas tale. In fact, the more childlike and pantomimic the whole thing is, the better is it, in our opinion, adapted to the season.

The various collections before us, a few only out of the many that have been published, are as miscellaneous as their titles. First comes the Christmas number of *All the Year Round*, a sequel to the very popular "Mrs. Lirriper's Lodgings" of last year. Here what we have called the framework is doubtless the main attraction. At the first sentence we recognize the handiwork of Mr. Dickens; and we are only too glad to welcome our old friend in one of his lighter moods, and to be spared awhile the "Podsnapperies" and other dry husks with which we have recently had to content ourselves. The character of Mrs. Lirriper, the good-hearted lodging-house-keeper, is doubtless well known to our readers; and her more effective utterances have ere this become so familiar by the numerous extracts which have been given by our daily contemporaries that we deem it superfluous to offer any further specimens here. Suffice it to say that not a few of the characters and scenes described by the garrulous old lodging-house-keeper bear marks of the hand which gave us Mrs. Gamp and Mr. Micawber; we may particularize the scene between Major Jackman and the tax-gatherer,

which, as a piece of burlesque, is excellent. Of the stories which arise out of Mrs. Lirriper's visit to France we can hardly speak in terms of praise. The first is too ghastly; another is dull; and a third, though clever, brings back reminiscences of the famous ghostly mail-coach which carried the dead-letters in "Pickwick." The story of the poor relation is readable and suitable; and that of the schoolboy, though much too prolix, is, in its wild but somewhat picturesque improbability, by far the most *seasonable* of the collection.

"A Bunch of Keys," the next work on our list, aspires more, we apprehend, to the nature of a gift-book than a mere ephemeral production to be bought at a railway-station and left in the carriage. In form it is a handsome and well-got-up volume, and the preface tells us that it arose from a desire on the part of half-a-dozen young writers that the good old custom of Christmas Annals should not die out altogether. The editor is Mr. Thomas Hood; the framework is contributed by Mr. T. W. Robertson; and the stories are written by Messrs. T. Archer, W. S. Gilbert, T. Hood, W. J. Prowse, and Clement Scott. Mr. Robertson has bestowed more pains than are usual upon his part of the task, and has given us a very pleasant sketch of two young brothers who, finding some theatrical dresses, elope with them and wander about the country as savage boy and his keeper. Ultimately they break down, are taken in by a kind-hearted lighthouse-keeper, who gets them to fish with a net; the result of which is that they catch a "bunch of keys," and the more intellectual brother, getting wet in the process, is put to bed and dreams a series of stories connected with the keys. Awaking subsequently, he is warmed with a good thrashing by his indignant parent, who has come in search of him, and we are left to infer he was happy ever afterwards. It will be seen that Mr. Robertson has travelled a good deal out of the beaten track in endeavouring to invent a novel setting for his stories. The idea is, we think, successful, for it shocks us less to conceive that a clever lad might dream stories than that half-a-dozen casual acquaintances should all have tales ready to be told at a moment's notice. The great fault of most of the stories is that they are too tragic. Only one of them—that written by Mr. Gilbert—at all approaches to what a Christmas story should be like. Of the others, three are tales of wild passion, and the fourth is a regular conventional love-story, which might well form an episode in a three-volume novel. We must not, however, neglect to mention with praise one of the more passionate tales—that of Mr. Prowse. It is, in our opinion, wholly inappropriate to a light work like that before us, being, indeed, one of the most painful sketches we ever read. But it shows very considerable power, and we have little doubt that its author, if he can continue to draw such characters as that of Major Grant, will ere long make a mark as a writer of fiction.

"Tenants at Will" is the title of the Christmas number of *Chambers's Journal*. Here the artifice consists in the author of the introduction being hoaxed by an old college friend, who pretends that he is the Secretary of a "Society for the Re-establishment of the Character of Haunted Houses," and palms off upon him a number of ghost-stories of no very great novelty of character. The introduction is by far the most amusing part of this collection.

That gorgeously-covered and cleverly-illustrated magazine *London Society* has also issued an extra Christmas number, containing no less than fourteen stories and poems. We cannot say much for the merit of the letterpress, but many of the illustrations are pretty and well-engraved; and we have no doubt that the stories, some of which are by well-known authors, will be found sufficiently amusing by those less surfeited with this kind of literature than we confess to being at present.

"Beeton's Christmas Annual" is a thick shillingworth of tales, burlesques, nonsense,

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caricatures, and riddles. The principal story, called "Number Seven," is by no means amusing, but the old fairy-tales in a Chinese dress are clever, and the illustrations to them very good.

Our list must conclude with the "Christmas Number of the *Comic News*." The majority of the articles in this are not worth noticing, but the description of the hardships undergone by a "Super" in a pantomime is graphic and well illustrated, and the "Diary of a late Cannibal," which is Man Friday's view of the character of Robinson Crusoe, is novel and amusing.

## NOTICES.

*Askerdale Park.* A Novel. By a Clergyman. Two Volumes. (Maxwell & Co.) — ROBERT CARLTON was two-and-twenty years of age, had just finished with high honours his career at Cambridge, and is, when the story begins, paying a visit to his old tutor, who has lately been promoted to a canonry in Westminster Cathedral. Proud of his young pupil, he introduces him to all his clerical friends, and, among the rest, to Marmaduke Marston, a clergyman by profession, but by habit and inclination somewhat of a Bohemian. Although nearly twice Carlton's age, he also had been a pupil of the canon's, and in his younger days had travelled much on the Continent, and was familiar with the world and its ways. These circumstances, coupled with his own pleasant qualities, soon opened a way to the confidence of our young hero; and before the two were many hours together friendship had cemented the acquaintance. Though thus surrounded by men of the clerical office, our young friend had no inclination for the Church, but rather longed for the more stirring life of the statesman; and the difficulties he saw between him and the realization of his hopes damped his spirits and gave an unhappy tinge to his existence. At a party, however, given at the Episcopal Palace, whither he and his old tutor are invited, he gets introduced to Miss Verderer, the rich heiress of "Askerdale Park." The author here makes a long, but very interesting, digression in order to tell us the whole history of this young lady's family, and how it is she herself has become so rich; but we pass over this to continue the direct thread of the narrative. Our heroine's guardian is her uncle, Sir Humphrey Hundred, a rich and ambitious parvenu, who purposed to marry his niece to Lord Ellerton, whose influence he hopes to secure one day in procuring a peerage for himself. Immediately under Sir Humphrey, in the guardianship of the heiress, is his poor relation, Miss Warley, of a bilious temperament and lemon-coloured face; and she watches over the doings of our heroine with all the keenness of a duenna. Under these circumstances Carlton, who has become the privately accepted lover of the young lady, finds insuperable barriers to the continuance of his courtship, and has already, indeed, been discovered by the sleepless dependant holding a clandestine interview with the rich ward. The fact is at once communicated to Sir Humphrey, and he resolves that our heroine should leave town immediately by an express-train which would not stop once between King's Cross and the place of her destination. With the assistance of her maid, Miss Verderer is able to communicate the fact to her lover, who sees in her departure the final collapse of all his schemes and hopes. At this particular juncture, however, his friend, the Bohemian parson, comes to town; and to him he unfolds his grief. They adjourn to the "Oxford and Cambridge," and over their wine discuss seriously the state of affairs. After some cogitation our gay clerical friend writes out a plan of action, which consists in neither more nor less than carrying off the heiress from the express-train. This is so cleverly contrived, and has such an air of verisimilitude about it, that we forbear communicating to our readers the *modus operandi*. Suffice it to say, the execution of the plan is triumphant; and at the close of the first volume the hero is master of the situation. But in the second volume come difficulties, complications, and catastrophes; and how it all ends readers must find out for themselves. The author, we are sure, will carry them cheerfully along with him, and few will lay down his two volumes without having experienced during their perusal pleasure and satisfaction. Sir Humphrey, Miss Billy, and especially Marmaduke Marston, are splendid in their way, if not absolute creations; and the author shows such a fine human sympathy

in everything he touches and in every portrait he produces that we cannot withhold from him the epithet masterly. His plots, too, are capital and have real ingenuity in them, and his description—such as that of the attack upon the express-train, for instance—brings scenes and persons bodily before the eye.

*Reverses.* By the Author of "Angelo," &c. Two Volumes. (Murray & Co.) — THERE are several passages in "Reverses" which make us wonder how it is the author has not done better. The plot is a good one and fairly carried out; but few of the characters are realizable. Dromona Parkes and old Leigh are exceptions to this; but most of the others, if not unnatural, are often inconsistent with themselves. The conduct of Charlotte Pennington, for instance, scarcely harmonizes with her character; and her brother Charles, considering his education, position, and implied taste, has little about him of the gentleman, and not a single human point to redeem, however feebly, the character of thorough-paced villain. The answer our author or authoress—for we scarcely know which—might return, that, as the children of a changeling, they but show their blood, scarcely meets our objection. Habit and education do not receive fair play. The interest of the story turns, in a great measure, upon the heroine, Alice Wharton, and her step-brother, Nathaniel Leigh, being accused of murder; and the second volume is occupied in clearing matters up, and disposing of, with propriety, the various personages of the drama. The narrative is flowing enough, but the incidents are sensational without likelihood, and the sympathies of the reader are only occasionally enlisted.

*Critical, Historical, and Philosophical Contributions to the Study of the Divina Commedia.* By Henry Clark Barlow, M.D. (Williams and Norgate.) — IN this volume Dr. Barlow gives an account of the existing MSS. of Dante's great poem in the libraries of Europe. He estimates the total number of codici at five hundred, of which nearly four-fifths are in Italy; and England has the honour of possessing the next greatest number. Dr. Barlow has also collected his discussions on the various readings and meanings of a great number of passages, together with much matter of importance bearing upon them. We must most strongly protest against the reading he would adopt for *Inferno*, cant. 5, v. 59. It is slenderly supported by textual authority, and could never have been written by Dante in this place. If he had supposed Semiramis thus guilty, she would have been placed in very different company, and in a far lower deep of Hell. There can be no doubt that the "quattro stelle" described at the commencement of the Purgatory are the four stars of the constellation of the Southern Cross. But it is strange that Dr. Barlow should think it necessary to mention that, "without the aid of the telescope, they appear as four stars." It might as well be remarked that, in the northern hemisphere, the Great Bear is visible to the naked eye. This piece of simplicity is the more to be wondered at, because there are good illustrations by Dr. Barlow of many of the allusions to matters of physical as well as metaphysical science in other parts of the poem which have been generally neglected or blundered over by annotators. But it is not wise to attempt to vindicate for Dante a more advanced scientific knowledge than belonged to the age in which he lived. He knew, and knew accurately, all the natural philosophy which was then taught in the schools, but he had neither the will nor the power to know more.

*The History of a Voyage to the Moon, with an Account of the Adventurers' subsequent Discoveries: an exhumed Narrative supposed to have been ejected from a Lunar Volcano.* (Lockwood & Co. Pp. 204.) — THIS curious narrative of the voyage of two men who are facetiously supposed to have reached the moon in an immense car in which are inclosed not only food, but the means of producing the necessary gases for human existence, reminds one of the famous tale of Edgar Allan Poe. The same semi-scientific knowledge is affected, and details of the voyage are recorded with the same minute accuracy. Our voyagers find the moon inhabited on the farther side by a handsome, intelligent, and happy race; and so pleased are they with their new home that they enclose copies of their adventures in a series of round stones, and, suspending them by iron rods over the mouth of a lunar volcano, they leave the precious documents to find their way to earth. This one of them does, and falls in the garden of "Chrysostom Trueman, a clergyman of the Church of England," who digs the treasure up, and is thus the means of making the world acquainted

with the wonderful adventures of Stephen Howard and Carl Geister.

*French Reader, for the Use of Colleges and Schools; containing a Graduated Selection from Modern Authors, in Prose and Verse, and Copious Notes, chiefly Etymological.* By Edward A. Oppen, Professor of Modern Languages at Haileybury College. (Macmillan & Co. Pp. 328.) — AMONG the writers whom Professor Oppen has chosen as examples will be found the names of La Fontaine, Voltaire, Le Sage, Montesquieu, Guizot, De Vigny, Sismondi, Thiers, Thierry, Lamartine, Dumas, and De Balzac; in poetry, Hugo, De Vigny, Lamartine, Béranger, and Ronsard; while the Drama is illustrated by Molière, Scribe, Corneille, and Racine. The feature of the volume, however, is its etymological notes, in which here and there he refers, among other derivations, to the connexion of modern French with Gaelic and Welsh. The book is capitally printed, and, from the carefully graduated way in which the compiler introduces his extracts, beginning with the simple fable of "Le Lion et le Rat" of La Fontaine, and ending with the subtle idiom of the "Phèdre" of Racine, we have little doubt but that the "French Reader" will very soon be sought after.

*The Earlier Years of Our Lord's Life on Earth.* By the Rev. William Hanna, D.D., LL.D., author of the Life of Dr. Chalmers. (Edinburgh: Edmonston and Douglas. Pp. 422.) — THE learned Doctor's volume ranges from "the Annunciation" to the "first Sabbath in Capernaum and first circuit of Galilee." This is not a mere religious disquisition or running commentary on the Gospel narrative, but must be regarded as something like a historic attempt to portray, from the orthodox point of view, the earlier years of the life of our Saviour. Whatever of exposition Dr. Hanna introduces elucidates without overburthening the narrative; his pages are enlivened by historical and topographical reference; and few will begin "The Earlier Years of Our Lord's Life on Earth" without going on to the end. We can scarcely do better than quote, as an example of our author's style, the following description of the present aspect of the sea of Galilee:—"Now all is silent there; lonely and most desolate. Till last year but a single boat floated upon its waters. On its shores, Tiberias in ruins, and Magdala composed of a few wretched hovels, are all that remain. You may ride round and round the empty beach, and, these excepted, never meet a human being nor pass a human habitation. Capernaum, Chorazin, Béthsaïda are gone. Here and there you stumble over ruins, but none can tell you exactly what they were. They know not those cities of the Lake, the day of their visitation; their names and their memory have perished."

*Household Prayer, from Ancient and Authorized Sources, with Morning and Evening Readings from the Gospels and Epistles for each Day of the Month.* By the Rev. P. E. Medd, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of University College, Oxford. (Rivingtons. Pp. 302.) — "EVERY Christian household," says the preface, "ought to be a church in miniature. The ties of family are ordained of God, and should be consecrated to Him by the regular collective worship of the family, conducted, in the absence of a priest, by its head;" and, in order that the head of the family may the more efficiently perform this duty, the author has compiled "Household Prayer." "The hymns, with the one exception of that for Whitsuntide, are taken, with the kind permission of the editors, from 'Hymns Ancient and Modern.'"

*The Oxford Declaration and the Eleven Thousand; Biblical Truths and Bishop Colenso.* By James Boully, formerly Member of the Heidelberg University. (Farrar. Pp. 130.) — THIS is but a continuation of a former work, called "The Tribune where Superstition is condemned, and the Providence of God towards Men justified." "The object of this publication," says our author, "is not to thrust any particular religious creed, opinion, or idea upon mankind, but, on the contrary, to allow every one to entertain the creed which the circumstances amid which he has been placed, and the capacity of intellect which his Maker has given to him, have allowed him to compose. If the Christian doctrines do not approve themselves to the whole world, and unite mankind by the bonds of concord and peace, let every individual be allowed to reject them, and choose his own creed, without calling forth such an unwholesome document as the 'Oxford Declaration of the Eleven Thousand.'" He concludes his exposition, extending to 130 closely printed pages, by expressing the hope that, whatever be the faults and failings of humanity in this world, all punishment for them will cease at death.

# THE READER.

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*The Church Choirmaster: a Critical Guide to the Musical Illustration of the Order for Daily Prayer.* By John Crowdy. (Rivingtons. Pp. 107.)—THIS short but admirable "treatise on the musical illustration of the Order for Morning and Evening Prayer of the English Church" is a reprint, with alterations and additions, of a series of papers contributed to the *Musical Standard*, and is worthy the perusal of all those interested in the matter.

*The New Sunday School Tune Book.* Edited by the Author of "Sacred Harmonies." (Jackson, Walford, and Hodder. Pp. 66.)—THIS little volume is twofold in design:—"First, to meet a want created by the 'New Sunday School Hymn Book' by supplying tunes for its peculiar metres, and, secondly, to be a general tune-book for Sunday-school and home purposes."

## GIFT-BOOKS FOR THE SEASON.

[SIXTH NOTICE.]

A RIGHT regal gift-book is "A Memorial of the Marriage of H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and H.R.H. Alexandra, Princess of Denmark, by W. H. Russell, LL.D.: the various Events and the Bridal Gifts illustrated by Robert Dudley," a perfect blaze of gold and colour, the chromo-lithographs, particularly those of the wedding-presents, the representations of gold, silver, jewels and lace, standing out almost like the reality of the costly things themselves. The other illustrations are portraits of the illustrious pair, views of Danish scenery, the Bricklayers' Arms Station, London Bridge, St. Paul's, Temple Bar, Trafalgar Square, Waterloo Place, Hyde Park, Eton College, and the Rubens's Room at Windsor. Then there is the Wedding Morning, with the bridesmaids, St. George's Chapel, and the Signing of the Attestation Deed, a mass of portraits of the high and noble guests on that occasion. In every way Messrs. Day and Son have produced a record of the great and auspicious event worthy of the illustrious couple it is intended to honour, and of the perfection of the art of which they are *facile princeps*.

Messrs. Dean and Son, whose "Rubricated Comical Books" and "Colour-printed Story-books" place them quite at the head of caterers for the very wee folks, send forth this Christmas "Blue Pictures and Blue Rhymes," full of the most witty and amusing drolleries, told in ambling rhyme, the illustrations printed in blue and red on blue paper, and the jingle-jangle in blue to match. Then they give us "The History of Harry: What he Saw and What he Did, and What he did not See and Do," a very comic fairy-tale in prose, with wise teaching, printed on paper *couleur de rose*, with coloured illustrations of considerable merit by a young and rising artist, and with a cover of the same warm tint, picked out in gold.

"Eins ist eins, und drei sind drei,  
Drum addir' zu zweierley,"

seems to be a general rule this Christmas with the publishers; so Messrs. Dean also give us, to make up the magic three, "Daddy's Makings, || Little rhyming undertakings, || Very new and very funny, || Worthy all the Children's Pocket-money, || Full of Pictures drawn with care, || Coloured with a Beauty rare, || All by Daddy Dumkins, who || Nothing better had to do." And Daddy Dumkins might have been far less profitably employed, for he has produced quite a gem of its kind,—a very clever collection of fifteen funny coming tales in rhyme, printed in blue, with an endless variety of coloured cuts to match, in a binding of pink and gold, to please, as Daddy says, "both young and old."

Mr. Beeton is not to be left behind when it is a question of catering for boys home for the holidays. Out of the good things he provides we select two, "Travels into Several Remote Nations of the World, by Lemuel Gulliver," and, "Stories of the Wars, 1574–1658, from the Rise of the Dutch Republic to the Death of Oliver Cromwell, by John Tillotson," both profusely illustrated, the first with three hundred wood-engravings, by W. L. Thomas, from the clever designs of J. G. Thomson, and the other with coloured and tinted plates and numerous woodcuts inserted in the text.

Of Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin's illustrated "Vicar of Wakefield," "Robinson Crusoe," and "Pilgrim's Progress" we have already spoken, and we have only space to add that their "Jewels gathered from Painter and Poet," with illustrations by some of the first artists, and its companion volume, "Beauties of Poetry and Gems of Art," and "Favourite Poems by Gifted Bards," are sure to be most acceptable and seasonable gifts to all who relish beautiful poetry and beautiful prints.

Messrs. Ward and Lock, besides "Dalziel's Illustrated Goldsmith," one of the most charmingly illustrated works of the day, every plate redolent of recollections of "Goldy" and the days in which he placed his most inimitable of pictures of English life, have now completed the first volume of "Dalziel's Illustrated Arabian Nights' Entertainments," with one hundred illustrations after Millais, Watson, Tenniel, Houghton, Pinwell, and Dalziel, a book to be coveted, and, being freed from all that was objectionable in the older editions, a gift-book of the highest order. They also re-issue Mr. Charles Knight's "Pictorial Edition of the Book of Common Prayer," with its seven hundred woodcut illustrations.

Messrs. Low & Co. have published "Life with the Esquimaux, compiled from the Journals of Captain C. F. Hall," in which the reader will find an account of the recovery of actual relics of Martin Frobisher's expedition to the North Pole, three centuries ago, as well as much curious and interesting matter in connexion with Sir John Franklin's fate, in search of any surviving companions of whom Captain Hall has just started, reinforced, on a second expedition.

Messrs. Smith, Elder, & Co. add to their list of Christmas books an illustrated edition of "Lost among the Afghans: being the Adventures of John Campbell (otherwise Feringhee Bacha) amongst the Wild Tribes of Central Asia," which was noticed on its first appearance in No. 2 of THE READER—a book, as we there stated, full of valuable information respecting a most interesting country, of which but little is known. Boys who delight in the perusal of personal adventure will be sure to relish the book.

We have reserved for the last book on our list of seasonable gift-books "The Gossiping Photographer on the Rhine," illustrated with a series of sixteen photographs by Francis Frith, a companion volume to Mr. Bennett's beautiful edition of Longfellow's "Hyperion," both illustrated by the same artist. The view of Bacharach am Rhein is one of the most successful photographs ever issued as a book-illustration, and the Lahnstein is but slightly inferior.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ADAMS (John, B.A.) *Day Dreams.* Feap. Svo. *Longman.* 3s. 6d.  
 ALPINE JOURNAL (The). Vol. I. Svo. *Longman.* 1s.  
 ANDERSON (Rufus, D.D.) *Hawaiian Islands: their Progress and Condition under Missionary Labours.* With Illustrations. Second Edition. Post Svo., pp. 450. *Boston.* 10s. 6d.  
 ANGELO. *Fac-similes of Original Studies.* By Michael Angelo, in the University Galleries, Oxford. Edited by Joseph Fisher. Cr. 4to, hf. bd. *Bell and Dally.* 2s.  
 ARCHER (Thomas). *The Pauper, the Thief, and the Convict.* Sketches of some of their Homes, Parents, and Habits. Post Svo., pp. 230. *Groombridge.* 6s.  
 ART JOURNAL (The). New Series. Vol. III. With Engravings. Roy. 4to, pp. viii–376. *Virtue.* 3s. 6d.  
 ATLAS. Colton's *Atlas of America.* Imp. Svo. *Bacon.* 42s.  
 BARCLAY (A. W., M.D.) *Medical Errors, Fallacies connected with the Application of the Inductive Method of Reasoning to the Science of Medicine.* Post Svo., pp. vii–123. *Churchill.* 5s.  
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 CHRISTIAN WORK. A Magazine of Religious and Missionary Information. For 1864. Roy. Svo., pp. 572. *Good Words Office.* 6s.  
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**TASSO (Torquato)**. Jerusalem Delivered. Translated into English Verse by John Kingston James, Knt., M.A. Fcap. Svo., pp. xxxii—658. *Longman*. 12s.  
**TEXIER (C.) and FULLAN (R. P.)** Byzantine Architecture. With Engravings. Folio. *Day and Son*. 26. 6s.  
**THOMAS (Annie)**. Barry O'Byrne. Three Volumes. Cr. Svo., pp. 922. *J. Maxwell*. 31s. 6d.  
**TOLLIER (Rev. Thomas Northcote)**. Facts and Incidents in the Life and Ministry of. By Thomas Coleman. Fcap. Svo., pp. viii—160. *Snow*. 3s.  
**TORRENS (W. T. M.)** Lancashire's Lesson; or, the Need of a Settled Policy in Times of Exceptional Distress. A Letter addressed to the Right Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers. M.P. Post Svo., pp. viii—191. *Trübner*. 3s. 6d.  
**TRENCH (Francis, M.A.)** Brief Notes on the Greek of the New Testament. Cr. Svo., pp. viii—264. *Macmillan*. 6s.  
**TUTTIETT (Rev. L.)** Plain Forms of Household Prayer, for Four Weeks, especially suited to those who are much engaged in necessary business. Fcap. Svo., pp. viii—232. *Morgan*. 2s. 6d.  
**UHLAND'S SONGS AND BALLADS**. Translated from the German by the Rev. W. W. Skeat, M.A. Post Svo., pp. xxviii—455. *Williams and Norgate*. 7s.  
**UXON REVIEW** (The). A Magazine of Catholic Literature and Art. Vol. 2. January to December, 1864. Svo., pp. 665. *Hayes*. 12s. 6d.  
**VAUGHAN (C. J., D.D.)** Lectures on St. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians. Second Edition. Cr. Svo., pp. xii—341. *Macmillan*. 7s. 6d.  
**VAUGHAN (C. J., D.D.)** Lessons of Life and Godliness. A Selection of Sermons preached in the Parish Church of Doncaster. Third Edition. Fcap. Svo., pp. xi—329. *Macmillan*. 4s. 6d.  
**WELLS (J. Soelberg)**. On Long, Short, and Weak Sight, and their Treatment by the Scientific Use of Spectacles. Second Edition. Svo., pp. ix—214. *Churchill*. 6s.  
**WEATHERELL (Elizabeth)**. Melbourne House. Fcap. Svo., bds., pp. 512. *Routledge*. 2s.  
**WILLIAMSON (Rev. Alexander)**. Sure and Comfortable Words of Everlasting Promise. Fcap. Svo., pp. 100. *Macintosh*. 3s.  
**YAXLEY AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD**. A Novel. By the Author of "Myself and My Relations." Three Volumes. Post Svo. *Newby*. 31s. 6d.  
**YOUNG ENGLAND**. Vol. 3. With Illustrations. Sup. roy. Svo., pp. 300. *Tweedie*. 5s.  
**WEBB (Mrs. J. B.)** Ishmael the Yezidee. A Romance of Syrian Life. With Illustrations. Fcap. Svo., pp. vii—239. *Darton and Hodge*. 5s.

## MISCELLANEA.

WE are glad to hear that the letters written from America by the Honourable Lyulph Stanley, Fellow of Balliol, to his family during his late visit to the United States, are likely to be published by Messrs. Macmillan. Those who have read the letters in manuscript are warm in their praises of them, and assert that they are the best English correspondence yet received from America.

THE "Working Women's College," lately opened in Queen Square, Bloomsbury, and now finishing its first term, appears to have had a fair measure of success. The entries of students have amounted to 140, the largest classes being English Literature (24 members), French (23), Drawing (21), Arithmetic (19), and Physiology (17). Botany has attracted 11 students, Latin 5, and Geometry 5.

THE trustees of Dr. Williams's library lately received £10,200 compensation from the Metropolitan Extension Railway for their house in Redcross Street, which was required by the Company. The library is now located in Queen Square, but the trustees have, we believe, decided upon erecting a building in a more convenient situation.

THE historical collection of models of naval architecture, which commences with the *Great Harry* of Henry VII.'s time, and is continued to the iron ships now building both in her Majesty's dockyards and private yards, and which has hitherto been deposited in the vaults of Somerset House, has been removed to the South Kensington Museum temporarily until suitable premises are built. It will be opened to the public for the first time, without restriction, on the 19th of December.

SIR GARDNER WILKINSON, an old Harrovian, has presented his collection of Egyptian antiquities to the Harrow School Library.

MESSRS. BLACKWOOD AND SONS have just published one of the most important accessions to our knowledge of Central Africa in Captain Grant's "Walk across Africa," consisting of domestic scenes from his Nile journal, with details of the manners and customs of various tribes of the great Hamitic family, whose countries he and Captain Speke passed through on their journey to the Lake Nyanza.

MESSRS. JACKSON, WALFORD, AND HODDER announce a translation of Homer's Iliad by Mr. W. Simcox, in Hexameter verse, in which the names of deities and heroes are given in the spelling of the original, so far as it has been found possible.

ARCTIC exploration may again become a subject of popular interest. It is rumoured that a naval officer of great reputation and noted Arctic antecedents is about to formally propose an expedition direct to the North Pole over the ice in winter.

ON Monday Founder's Day was celebrated at the Charterhouse, the Archbishop of Canterbury preaching the sermon; but the deaths of Thackeray and Leech cast a gloom over the festival. After the sermon the company repaired to the hall, where the annual Latin oration was delivered by Mr. Gerald Stanley Davies, who is about to proceed to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he has gained a scholarship. In its special notice was taken of the death of Thackeray, who had anticipated being present as a steward at this year's dinner. Similar expressions of sincere regret were uttered on the death of John Leech, the orator dwelling on the varied character of Leech's works, his largeness of heart, and his artistic power. The oration was warmly applauded. In the evening the old Carthusians dined together under the presidency of the Archdeacon of London, Lord Justice Turner, the Rev. Dr. Gatty, Mr. J. G. Talbot, Mr. R. C. Jebb, Mr. R. Brodie, the Rev. R. R. Watts, and the Rev. W. D. Parish being among the stewards.

THE Emperor of the French has lost one of the staunchest supporters of his throne and dynasty by the death of M. Jean François Constant Mocquard, his *Chef du Cabinet*, or private secretary, who died on Friday last in his seventy-fourth year, having been born at Bordeaux in 1791. Our morning contemporaries have done full justice to his memory as a politician, to whom the *coup d'état* of the 2nd of December, and the restoration of the House of Bonaparte to the throne, are due in no small degree. We have to claim him as a literary man, who filled a very respectable place among the brilliant writers for the French stage, one of his latest productions for which, the "Prise de Pékin," still holds its ground against younger competitors. But those by which he is best known are the "Tirouse de Cartes," brought out in 1859, and the "Massacres de Syrie," of the following years. As a writer of fiction he published, in the pages of the *Revue Européenne*, "Jessie," a novel of more than average merit, which, but for the fulsome puffing a work by the *Chef du Cabinet* of the Emperor was almost sure to call forth, would have been far more popular than it is, though its success was most unequivocal. M. Mocquard was educated in Paris, and obtained the place of bursar in the College of Louis le Grand, then known by the name of Prytanée. On quitting college he entered the School of Law, was called to the bar in 1817, and joined the Liberal party in its opposition to the Government of the Restoration. He was employed as counsel in some of the political trials of the period, and particularly in that of the military conspiracy, in which the four sergeants of Rochelle were implicated, and for which they suffered death. He ceased to practise as a lawyer in 1826.

In 1840 he started *Le Commerce*, a journal devoted to the interest of the Bonaparte family. M. Mocquard is said to have written the memoir of Queen Hortense, which is inserted in the "Biographie des Contemporains," and was reprinted in the "Revue de l'Empire." Amongst his literary remains, a translation of Tacitus is mentioned as the most important. Among the persons named as M. Mocquard's successor as Private Secretary to the Emperor are M. Saint René Tallandier, who has, we believe, been employed in revising the proofs of the Imperial History of Caesar, and M. Maury.

IT is well known that this year his Imperial Majesty has invited several artists and literary men to Compiègne who had not previously graced his hospitality. Among these is M. Alexandre Dumas the younger. The *Indépendance Belge* gives the following account of his proceedings:—"The author of the "Demi-Monde" obtained a brilliant success. During the first few hours of his visit he was reserved, silent, punctilious. He was studying his ground. When he saw that wit restrained by tact might allow itself free elbow-room, his manner grew easier—he became himself. He did not fear to let off all the fireworks of his wit, and his hearers were astonished to find that they were amusing themselves as much on an official visit to his Majesty as they might have done at Monte Cristo in the good old days when the Monte Cristo of the elder Dumas still existed. I am told that the Emperor himself was singularly struck with the vivacious fun that sparkles in the conversation of this vigorous spirit on the days when he is not overshadowed by melancholy, and that his Majesty deigned to request him to improvise, as M. Augier occasionally does, a charade or proverb bright with the same rare metal that gilds his spoken words. It was on the eve of the day fixed for the departure of the series of guests to which M. Alexandre Dumas the younger belonged, and the proposal was made that he should *survive* his series so as to have the necessary time to write what was demanded of him. 'Time!' said he, 'why, I have from now till to-morrow.' And, in a twinkling, without any one having been able to discover when, where, and how he had worked—for he had not been lost sight of in the interval—the little dramatic dish was ready at the appointed hour, well seasoned and cooked to a turn."

THE question of literary proprietorship is now being agitated before the Council of State in France, with what final result is not yet absolutely determined. Upwards of eighteen months ago a commission, appointed for the purpose by Count Walewski, proclaimed the principle that literary men and artists possessed a full and hereditary right to their own productions for ever. The sub-commission, which was at the same time directed to prepare the draft of a law embodying this view, recoiled, however, from so complete a revolution in the existing order of things. They proposed that the period of literary proprietorship should be extended to fifty years after the date of an author's death—instead of thirty, as at present—and that, when these fifty years had run their course, the author's heirs should possess only a perpetual right of percentage on the reproduction of any work. This compromise, however, has not received the sanction of the Council of State. The perpetual portion of the scheme, which constituted its principle and its distinctive character, has been thrown out; and it merely remains now to be determined whether the period of proprietorship shall be extended from thirty to fifty years.

THE 27th of November was the hundred-and-fifty-first anniversary of the birth of the Abbé de l'Epée, who spent his life in endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the deaf and dumb. On that day, by a graceful custom, an annual banquet of those who are so afflicted is held in Paris. This year, M. Chambellay, a deaf and dumb professor, addressed those who were present in dumb show, and made what would have been, had it been uttered, a very neat speech. He spoke—though that's not quite the word—of the liberality with which the institutions for the benefit of those from whom "knowledge at one gateway is clean shut out" had been treated by the successive governments of France, and especially by the Emperor. He also alluded in touching terms to the good Abbé's labours and educational system.

MR. TENNYSON'S "Enoch Arden" has had an unusually extensive sale in South Australia. Each leading bookseller at Melbourne received a large number of copies of the volume, and sold the whole within a few hours after the arrival of the mail.

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In the articles of federation proposed for adoption by the North American colonies, separate legislation in the matter of copyright is claimed. This is a subject which should not be overlooked by English literary men, as, at the present time, the amount they derive from copyright from the American colonies is extremely small.

"We have to acknowledge," says the *Hindoo Patriot*, "the receipt of an essay on 'The Relative Advantages of Works of Fiction and History,' read at a Mofussil club. The essay is well written, chaste, and elegant. There is a vein of placid eloquence in the writer much to be admired." The same journal also acknowledges the receipt of the "Revised Absentee and Pension Rules for the Uncovenanted Service," with a copious index, and the rules corrected up to date. The compilation seems to have been made with much care, and reflects great credit on its author, Baboo Banee Madhub Bhattacharjea. Other East Indian publications named are "Verses in Bengalee," by Nemy Churn Sing (Calcutta); a paper on a "Land Grant of Mahendrapala Deva of Kanauj," by Baboo Rajendraul Mitter; "An Easy Geography," by J. G. Chatterjee & Co. (Calcutta); and "Sericulture in Oudh," by Dr. E. Bonavia. Mr. Browning, of the Education Department, Calcutta, has been entrusted by Government with the completion of a "Gazetteer of the Central Provinces of India."

We have to call attention to the following French books, advertised during the past week:—"Histoire de Napoléon 1er, Empereur des Français, par B. Renault;" "Révolution d'Angleterre de 1688, par M. A. Foucher de Careil;" a tale by Eugène Sue, "Mademoiselle de Plouernel, Récit du Temps de Louis XIV," now first printed in a separate form; "Récits de Noël, par J. D. Liefe;" "Eh ! Lambert ! à-propos-Vaudeville, par MM. Clairville et Jules Moinaux;" "De l'Influence du Nez de Cléopâtre sur les Destinées du Monde, par J. Sibadet;" a novelty in French literature, with coloured plates, a quarto volume entitled "Les Folies Enfantines: Tableau Vivant; contenant La Berçonne, La Balançoire, Le Petit Postillon, Les Petits Musiciens, Les Petits Soldats, Le Petit Maître d'Ecole, La Souris Prise, L'Eureuil échappé de sa Cage;" four curious old maps:—"Fac-simile de Quatre Cartes du XIIe Siècle (1102, 1110, 1153, 1187), concernant Compiègne, Pierrefonds et Noyon, accompagnés du Texte Latin, avec Traduction Française, par Peigné-Delacourt;" "Le Monde de la Mer, par Alfred Frédol; Illustré de 21 pl. sur acier tirées en couleur et de 200 vign. sur bois dessinées par P. Laekerbauer;" "Bréviaire du Gastronome, Utile et Récréatif, Aide-mémoire pour Ordonner les Repas, par l'Auteur de 'La Cuisinière de la Ville et de la Campagne,'" a sensible book of French cookery; and the following translations from the English:—Mayne Reid's "Chasseurs de Bisons," and his "Grimpeurs de Rochers, suite du Chasseur de Plantes, traduit par Mme. Henriette Loreau;" Wilkie Collins's "Une Poignée de Romans, traduits par E. D. Forges, 2e série;" and Longfellow's "Evangeline, Conte d'Acadie, traduit par Ch. Brunel."

THE *Beilage zur Allgemeinen Zeitung* (No. 325) gives "The Inhabitants of the Suf, Letters of African Travels from Professor Desor to Leibig," and (No. 331) a review of Taine's "History of English Literature;" the *Morgenblatt für Gebildete Leser* (No. 49) continues "Shakespeare-studien eines Realisten;" the *Blätter für Literarische Unterhaltung* (No. 49) has "Graf Camillo von Cavour;" the *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes* (No. 49), "Franz Müller und die Englisches Presse;" "Zur Geschichte der Abolitionisten-Partei," and "Mexico und seine Gemischte Bevölkerung;" the *Bremer Sonntagsblatt* (No. 49), "Unpublished Remains of Cherubini and Ph. Em. Bach;" the *Unterhaltungen am Häuslichen Herd* (No. 49), "Eine Nacht in den Strassen von London," by W. Kürter," and "Sprachforschung und Darwinismus;" the *Gartenlaube* (No. 49), "Cypressenzweig auf das Grab des John Leech;" the *Berliner Revue*, "John Markgrave of Brandenburg and the Hereditary Claims of the House of Brandenburg to the Schleswig-Holstein Duchies;" the *Serapeum* (No. 18), "What Dramatic Art owes to the Jesuits;" the *Ausland* (No. 49), "The Chemical Activity of Water in the Bowels of the Earth," "The Military Services of English Troops in the Pay of China," and Bain's "Western Africa;" and the *Göttingen Gelehrte Anzeiger* (No. 45), "Maltzan's Drei Jahre im N.W. von Africa," and "Renan Mission de Phénice."

THE following is a complete list of the publications of the Société de l'Histoire de Belgique to the 1st of December, 1864:—1<sup>re</sup> Série—16<sup>e</sup> Siècle:

"Mémoires de Fery de Guyon," edited by M. de Robaulx de Soumoy; "Mémoires de Viglius et d'Hooperus," by M. A. Wauters; "Mémoires Anonymes sur les Troubles des Pays-Bas," tomes i., ii., iii., et iv., by M. J.-B. Blaes; "Mémoires de Pasquier de la Barre et de Nicolas Soldoyer," tome i., by M. Alex. Pinchart; "Mémoires de Jacques de Wesenbeke," by M. C. Rahlenbeck; "Mémoires de Frédéric Perrenot, Sieur de Champagny," by M. de Robaulx de Soumoy; "Les Commentaires de Don Bernardino de Menardo, l'un des Lieutenants du Duc d'Albe," two vols., by Colonel Guillaume, author of "L'Histoire des Gardes Wallonnes;" "Mémoires de Philippe Warny de Visenpierre sur le Siège de Tournay en 1581," by A.-G. Chotin; "Mémoires de Pontus Payen, Avocat d'Arras (de la Guerre civile aux Pays-Bas, &c.)," tomes i. et ii., by M. Alex. Henne, author of "L'Histoire du Règne de Charles-Quint;" "Mémoires de Francisco de Enzinas (Dryander)," tomes i. et ii., by M. Ch.-Al. Campan; "Mémoires sur Montigny," by M. J.-B. Blaes; and "Histoire des Troubles advenus à Valenciennes à Cause des Hérésies, 1562-1579, tirée de plusieurs écrits en 1699, par P. J. de Bouco," by A. P. L. de Robaulx de Soumoy, Auditeur Militaire de Brabant. 3<sup>e</sup> Série—18<sup>e</sup> Siècle: "Procès d'Anneessens, Doyen de la Nation de Saint-Nicolas, à Bruxelles, 1719," two vols., by M. L. Galesloot, Chef de Section aux Archives du Royaume. The following are preparing for publication:—"Commentaires de Don Sancho de Londono, traduits de l'Espagnol, avec notice et notes," par M. Van Vloten de Deventer; "Mémoires de Pasquier de la Barre et de Nicolas Soldoyer," vol. ii.; "Mémoires sur les Troubles de la Ville de Gand, 1577-1579, avec notice et notes," par W. Kerwyn de Wolkaersbeke; and "Mémoires Anonymes," vol. v. and last.

AMONGST recent German publications are the first half of the seventh volume of Gerinus's "Geschichte des 19ten Jahrhunderts;" a Garibaldis romance by Ed. Rüffer, entitled "Aspromonte;" and the long-delayed Gotha Almanack in its various German and French phases. The delay is said to have been caused by the appearance of a rival in the field in the "Almanach de Paris 1865: Annuaire général de Diplomatie, de Politique, d'Histoire et de Statistique pour tous les Etats du Globe."

MESSRS. TRÜBNER & Co. announce for immediate publication "A Jewish Reply to Bishop Colenso on the Pentateuch," by the Jewish Association for the Diffusion of Religious Knowledge; Mr. Edwards's new book on "Libraries and their Founders;" "Major-General Maclellan and the Campaign on the York-Town Peninsula," by Frederick Milnes Edge, late American correspondent of the *Morning Star*; a new and revised edition of Rask's Anglo-Saxon Grammar; the fifth volume of Professor Horace Hayman Wilson's works; "Sea-Sickness: its Nature and Treatment," by Dr. John Chapman; "Lessons from the World of Matter and the World of Man," by Theodore Parker, &c., &c.

THE third volume of the "Bibliotheca Americana," published by Franck of Paris, consists of "Mémoire sur les Mœurs, Coutumes, and Religion des Sauvages de l'Amérique Septentrionale par Nicolas Perrot; publié pour la première fois par le Rév. P. J. Tailhan, de la Compagnie de Jésus."

## THE ANGELIC DOCTOR AT OXFORD.

ANGELO quis te similem putaret  
Esse, vel divis atavis creatum,  
Cum tuas planè refarat dolosus  
Simius artes?  
  
Sivè cùm palmâ latitans in altâ,  
Dente quos frustrâ tetigit superbo  
Dejicit fructus, nuceam procellam,  
Tutus in hostem.  
  
Sivè cùm ficte gravitatis ora  
Comico torquet dehonestâ rictu,  
Turba quod risu, nimium jocosa,  
Plaudat inepto,  
  
Sive, (quòd monstrum tua novit ætas,)  
Cùm furens intus rabie, feroque  
Imminens bello, similis dolenti  
Pectora plangit.  
  
Scilicet veræ pietatis ardor  
Non tulit pressis cohibere labris  
Fervidam vocem,—tuus ille forsitan  
Credat Apella.  
  
Credidit certè pius ille noster,  
Ore qui blando data verba reddit,  
Non prius nobis ita visus esse  
Credulus Oxon.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[The Editor does not hold himself responsible for opinions entertained by Correspondents. Anonymous communications cannot be inserted.]

## ON THE ANTIQUITIES OF IRELAND.

Belmont, near Galway, Dec. 12, 1864.

BEING lately in Dublin, assisting in the Queen's University Examinations, I availed myself of a spare day to visit the vast mound-covered temples of the Boyne, as well as the Pagan and Christian ruins of Monasterboice, in Louth, and of Donoughmore, in Meath.

The first place visited was Monasterboice. Here I observed indisputable evidence that the doorway of the round tower is an insertion; in other words, that the doorway had been built to the wall inclosing it, and not the wall built to the doorway, as would have been the case had the latter been an original part of the building. Among other evidences, I found that an angle of one of the stones on the inner side of the doorway, and near the bottom, had been deeply cut out, so as to overlap a large projecting stone belonging to the adjoining portion of the inclosing wall. The former is of sandstone, and the latter of hard tough silurian schist. The conclusion stated is further evidenced by another important fact, first noticed by a gentleman, a builder from Glasgow, who accompanied me: the mortar of the building itself is extremely hard; whereas that of the doorway is of a different kind, and much softer; the latter closely resembling that which has been used in an old mediæval chapel close by, and in ruins. Considering the circumstance, I may be allowed to suggest that the workmen, while inserting the doorway, finding it difficult, or unsafe, to detach the large "projecting stone," in consequence of the firmness of the mortar, or to break off the projecting portion in consequence of its toughness, were led to cut out a re-entering angle in the block which had been selected for that part of the doorway contiguous to the projecting stone, so as to make the former fit upon the latter.

Having long leaned to the opinion that the round towers of Ireland are of Pagan origin, I was induced to extend my excursion to Donoughmore, with the object of examining its round tower, the entrance of which, it is well known, is distinguished from all others in Ireland by having on its arch a rude *alto-rilievo* figure of the Crucifixion. With this and one or two minor exceptions, the Donoughmore doorway is identical in form, ornamentation, and material with that of the Monasterboice tower. Now I hold that, as the doorway of the latter building is an insertion, the Donoughmore one, including the figure of the crucifix, must also have been inserted. It is doubtful that the Donoughmore tower affords the same clear evidence which occurs at Monasterboice; as (unlike what is observed of the corresponding edifice of the latter place) the inclosing wall, for a yard or so on each side of the doorway, which consists of freestone, also appears to be a contemporary afterwork, the body of the tower being of limestone. This last material comes in, however, immediately above the large sandstone block on which the upper half of the Crucifixion is sculptured. But, in this place, there is a derangement of the limestone blocks, which is strongly suggestive of a patch.

I fully appreciate the evidences which have apparently led Dr. Petrie to conclude that the round tower of Donoughmore and its entrance are contemporaneous; but the important facts stated in connexion with the Monasterboice tower completely destroy in my mind the assumed contemporaneity. It seems probable that what appeared as "quite evident" to Mr. Beaufort in 1827, "that the whole of the stones forming the doorcase of the former tower have been an after-work," was effaced by the *pointing* which the entire building, from top to bottom, underwent more than twenty years ago. The Donoughmore doorway and its enclosing wall are probably mediæval in age; but I contend that the edifice to which they belong is considerably older. Some other round towers (Timahoe, Antrim, Kildare, Brechin in Scotland, &c.), I strongly suspect, will have to be placed in the same category.

The next objects of interest observed in my excursion were the mysterious megalithic monuments of New Grange and Dowth, near the Boyne. The meaning of the singular incised characters which occur in the interior of these structures has been the subject of discussion in

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## SCIENCE.

### A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT SCOTCH.

**A**T the meeting of the Ethnological Society on Tuesday last the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer for India, Mr. Laing, gave an extremely interesting account of some extensive excavations which he has been carrying on in Caithness, and which possibly may extend our acquaintance with Caledonian man to a very remote period. Mr. Laing said that he had long been of opinion that important evidence in respect to the antiquity of man might be discovered in this country by searches similar to those which had been carried on in Denmark, by opening what were called the "Kitchen-middens" there; and, last summer, he had caused several large and promising-looking mounds to be opened near Keiss, in Caithness, about eight miles north of Wick. On removing the green turf at the top, these mounds were discovered to consist chiefly of large masses of periwinkle and limpet shells, mixed with bones, flint splinters, and bone instruments of the rudest kind. In two there were remains of ancient buildings, and in one a building with solid massive walls; and three separate pavements, one over the other, were exposed, showing evidence of successive occupation either by successive races or by the same races at successive periods of time. In the lowest strata stone implements of the rudest kind had been discovered; but, in the instruments found in the upper strata, a greater finish of workmanship was distinctly traceable. In one case a pair of shears, with the blades of bronze, had been found in the most superficial layer. Bone and stone implements of various descriptions had been found mixed up with a mass of shells and bones of animals which had been used for food. Among these bones, too, had been discovered part of the jaw of a child, with the teeth attached to it, broken as if to get at the marrow, affording ground for presumption that cannibalism was prevalent, or at least occasionally resorted to, among the race to which the remains refer. The specimens of pottery varied according to the strata in which they were found. In the lower strata they were rude and of a very poor character; in the upper they showed an improved manufacture and had occasionally a blue glaze. None of the stone implements showed the mark of a tool; nor did the stones of which the buildings were formed; but the sandstone of the district, which was chiefly used—there being no flint in the neighbourhood—split naturally so regularly, that there was little necessity for this. Among the animal remains which had been identified were the bones of a small cetacean, which had probably been driven ashore, of the ox, horse, red deer—the latter of gigantic size—wild boar, and goat in large quantities. No sheep bones had been discovered, which was an indication of great antiquity, as no signs of the sheep had ever been discovered in the Swiss lake-dwellings. Remains of the dog and fox—both as articles of food—of the cormorant, the solan goose, and the great hawk (*Alca impennis*) had been found, but nine-tenths of the food of these people was shell-fish. They had no fishing-tackle, nor was there anything to intimate that they had any notion of fishing or boating, though they lived on the sea-shore; hence it is not surprising that the bones of fish are comparatively rare, though those of the cod had been found. The notions of art possessed by these people were of the rudest and most primitive description; but their architecture was more respectable; and a spinning whorl which had been dug out seemed to show that they had some rudimentary conception of manufactures. Mr. Laing next described the result of opening a long burial-mound by the sea-shore, which he found full of stone coffins at regular intervals of about fifteen feet apart. The mode of sepulture was an additional proof of the extreme antiquity of the people. The corpse was extended at full length on the ground; the stone cist was built up round it, with flat blocks of flag-stone; and the whole was covered with a light mound of stone and earth. There were no traces of habitation about this mound; it had been used solely as a place of sepulture. About the centre of it was found the coffin of one who appeared, by the care bestowed on his burial, to be the chief of the tribe; and close by his hand were discovered fifteen stone weapons of so rude a character that they could hardly be said to be worked implements, but which, nevertheless, had evidently served as hatchets, spearheads, knives or scrapers, and hammers or triturators. Mr. Laing concluded that these remains belonged to the early stone period, and that the race to whom they

belonged were part of the primitive population of these islands, who, in that remote corner of the country, had long preserved the simplicity and rudeness of their modes of life.

Professor Huxley, in proceeding to describe the most salient characters of the collection of human remains from Keiss, which had been placed in his hands for examination and description by Mr. Laing some weeks ago, pointed out the important circumstance that, thanks to the care with which the collection had been made, not only had eight more or less complete skulls been obtained, but many limb-bones, and two nearly complete, and two fragmentary pelvises, belonging to some of these skulls; so that much better means of forming a judgment as to the anatomical characteristics of these people was afforded than is usual in like cases. At the same time, relatively complete as the collection might be, its absolutely small extent must be carefully borne in mind in judging of the validity of the conclusions that might be drawn from it; and these conclusions must be regarded as awaiting confirmation or rejection from the study of larger materials.

Taking the collection as it stands, the most noteworthy point seems to be that these remains are referable to two types of structure—the one represented by the crania and bones marked by Mr. Laing No. 7 and No. 3, and the other by the skulls and other bones marked Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 8. The skull No. 7 is capacious, its length being 7'45in., its breadth 5'85, and its height 5'3. The forehead and the frontal region generally are well developed, and the occipital foramen looks, as usual, downwards and a little forwards. The facial bones are large and the teeth well developed; but there is none of that projection of the upper jaw or obliquity of the alveolar margin which constitutes what is ordinarily understood as prognathism. The lower jaw is square, with outwardly projecting angles, and the mental prominence strongly developed and projecting. The skull is altogether similar, in its general character, to those which are described, in the excellent "Crania Britannica" of Messrs. Davis and Thurnham, under the name of "Ancient British"—though, in applying that name to the skull under description, Professor Huxley desired not to be understood as committing himself to any opinion respecting the race to which these so-called "Ancient British" crania may have belonged. Sufficient of the pelvis of the individual to whom this skull belonged is preserved to show the sex to be male; and, like the skull, it proves that the person to whom these remains belonged differed in no important respect from a well-formed Englishman of the present day. Though the man was in the prime of life, his teeth are worn down in such a manner that their ivory is laid bare; and, as this has taken place to the same extent in the second type, there is much reason for concluding that the food of both was of similarly coarse description.

The skull No. 3, one of the best preserved of the whole series, differs from the preceding chiefly in what may be safely regarded as sexual characters, and, in all probability, appertained to a woman of the same stock. Widely different from the foregoing, the skulls of the second type, represented especially by Nos. 2 and 8, are more elongated, relatively narrower in the frontal and wider in the parietal region, with low forehead, whence the contour of the skull slopes upwards to the vertex, and then descends to the protuberant occiput. The frontal sinuses are well developed. The middle of the frontal bone is raised up into a longitudinal elevation, the like of which is common in Bushman and Australian skulls. Not unfrequently—though the constancy of this character cannot be safely reckoned upon—the occipital foramen looks backwards and downwards instead of forwards and downwards. The maxillary bones, without possessing the mass exhibited by those of the preceding type, have their alveolar margins much inclined, so that the skulls are strongly prognathous.

The pelvis of No. 8 is unfortunately very fragmentary; but, from what remains, and from the character of the skull and other bones, it is clear that "No. 8," the chieftain of Mr. Laing's description, was a male, of strongly-built frame. His stature, however, could not have exceeded five feet eight or nine inches; and it is remarkable that the tibia is somewhat shorter in relation to the femur—that is, in accordance with the ordinary proportions of man.

The pelvis of No. 2 is the most perfect of the whole series, and at the same time the most difficult to interpret satisfactorily. It is perfectly symmetrical, and exhibits no evidences of deformity, though certain prominences are so strong

the *Builder*. In answer to the Rev. Mr. Graves's statement, that "Irish archaeologists are well aware that there is not a vestige of an inscription (though there are many rude carvings) on any stone now visible in or about the mound of New Grange,"\* the editor, referring to Vallancey's views, observes, as one reason why they have not been noticed of late, that "it may be that during the last fifty to a hundred years, or since the passage was opened and the incisions exposed to the influence of the air, they may have all scaled off."†

Having carefully examined the incised figures (which occur on massive blocks and flags formed of a light-coloured, fine-grained sandstone) in both caves, I feel myself called on to state that I saw nothing materially different from those which have been published; and I doubt very much that any such figures have become effaced by atmospheric or other action since the reputed discovery of the caves. The figures are so fresh that it can readily be seen that they have been produced by a small pointed instrument. But what is the strongest proof in my mind as to the surface of the stones having undergone little or no scaling is that some of the blocks are marked with ice-scratches and furrows, such as must have been on them before they were removed from their natural site. The stones are what geologists call glaciated blocks.

Taking various circumstances into consideration, it appears to me that the figures noticed by the earliest observers do still exist; but it must also be admitted that they are nothing more than the incised spirals, circles, zigzags, lozenges, runiforms, and other figures, with which all who have examined the caves are familiar. As to their true meaning, this is a question which may be left in the hands of the many able men who are now studying their analogues at Lochgilphead (where there are acres of rock-surfaces covered with them), also in Northumberland, Kerry, and other places. How remarkable it is that these structures so singularly resemble in their shape the cruciform cave-temples of Salsette, near Bombay, and others in Egypt. The latter, however, have a covering of solid rock; whereas those of the Boyne are each covered with a vast mound of artificially piled-up coggle-stone gravel (eskar drift). In addition to its megalithic subterranean chambers, the New Grange mound has a flattened summit, circumscribed by a large rath-like circle, with a small one in the centre; while there still remain at its base several large monoliths, evidently part of another circle which formerly surrounded the entire mound. The entrance, truly cyclopean in style, has a threshold, formed of one or two enormous blocks of hard silurian schist, the front of which is crowded with large incised spirals, looking like mere ornamentation, and almost as sharply defined as on the day they were cut.

Instead of being sepulchral, as some imagine, I cannot but think that the Boyne antiquities have been erected for religious purposes—as caves wherein Druid priests performed their mystic rites. The huge stone basins (one of granite, one of sandstone, and another—broken—apparently of schist), each occupying one of the three recesses terminating the long entrance-passage in the New Grange mound, may have been used for sacrificial or baptismal purposes. The form of the cave is a singular feature; but probably the similarity which it bears to the symbol of Christianity is a mere coincidence. May not the three recesses, which give the cave its cruciform character, have been devoted to an ancient form of tri-theology? There is an incised branch-like figure‡ in the western recess which reminds me of the lines by the Druidical bard Taliesin—

\* I am acquainted with every sprig  
In the cave of the arch-diviner!†

Ireland is classical ground for archaic edifices: her cromlechs, pillar-stones, round towers, mound-covered temples, raths, circular stone fortresses, primitive pelasgic-styled Christian oratories, mediæval crosses, &c., are unsurpassed in number, or interest, by remains in any country of Europe. As monuments of her ancient renown, Irishmen may be justly proud of them. Let us hope that the growing intelligence of the age will ere long rescue these remains from their present unmerited neglect, and from, as I believe, a false and derogating chronology.§ WILLIAM KING.

\* See *Builder*, Oct. 15, p. 732. † *Ibid.*

‡ Some have taken this branch-like figure for a rune; others, from its being pinnated, for a representation of a palm-leaf; but to me it appears more likely to be a figure of some species of a willow, or of an ash.

§ Of course, the reader will understand that I here refer chiefly to the round towers, and other pagan monuments.

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that they might be regarded as exostoses. The antero-posterior measurement of the brim of the pelvis is greater than the transverse, contrary to the normal formation of the pelvis in either the male or the female of European races; and the antero-posterior dimension of the cavity of the pelvis itself is still more remarkably exaggerated. The acute subpelvic arch, the small diameter, and the height of the pelvis lead to the belief that this is the pelvis of a male subject, who is shown by the limb-bones to have been of a stature of about five-feet-four.

The great interest attaching to those remaining in the second division arises from the fact that they belong to precisely the same form as the so-called "river-bed" crania described by Professor Huxley in the *Geologist* for June 1862. The typical river-bed cranium, that from Marsham, in the valley of the Trent, was exhibited, and its extreme similarity to the second group of the Keiss skulls demonstrated. Furthermore, casts of skulls from the bed of the Nore and elsewhere in Ireland, for which Mr. Huxley was indebted to his friend Dr. Wright of Dublin, were shown, presenting the same characters; and perfectly similar crania have been discovered in Cornwall and in Towyn y Capel in Anglesea. From the description of the mode of interment of the last-named remains by the Hon. W. C. Stanley, it appears that the people buried in Anglesea closely resembled the ancient North Britons.

The skulls Nos. 2 and 7 may be said to exhibit the typical form: certainly the Irish skulls sent to Professor Huxley by Sir George Suttee, Bt., who found them in peat on his estate in Fifeshire, and those from Keiss numbered 1 and 5, depart from the standard in various directions. No. 5 represents the "kumbecephalic" type of Professor Daniel Wilson, to whom belongs the merit of first pointing out the fact that, in Scotland, an elongated type of skull was at least as ancient as the broad form, supposed to be aboriginal by the Scandinavian ethnologists and antiquaries.

No. 1 is the most remarkably degraded European skull which has hitherto been discovered. It is highly dolichocephalous and prognathous; the forehead is low and retreating; and the palate long and narrow. A sufficient number of the bones of the skeleton have been preserved to determine the sex and stature of the individual. The pelvis has the characteristic admeasurements of the human female, except that the antero-posterior measurement of the cavity is unusually great. The stature hardly exceeded five feet; but the bones, though, in their proportions, corresponding to the height, exhibited singularly strong muscular processes. The forearm is longer than usual in proportion to the upper arm, as is the leg in proportion to the thigh; the bones of the forearm and of the leg present several remarkable peculiarities; the calcaneum is unusually narrow in proportion to its length. Altogether, there is a remarkable air of wildness about this skeleton, especially if the sex of its possessor be taken into account.

Thus, so far as the evidence afforded by the Keiss remains can be considered sufficient, it tends to prove the co-existence of two distinct races in Caithness at the epoch of their interment. The first not distinguishable from the best type of Briton of the present day; the second presenting marks of great physical inferiority. Skulls of the second type are to be found still in England; and an attentive search for them in the bone-houses and churchyards in Northern Scotland and Western and Southern Ireland would not improbably meet with ample reward. If compared with known ancient types, the Keiss skulls of the second form show resemblances to that called Celtic by Retzius, and to the Danish skull from Moen, of which a cast was presented to the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England by Eschricht. But their closest affinities are with the skulls of the present natives of Australia, of which three forms are distinguishable: one essentially similar to the Keiss skull, the other two departing from that type—on the one hand by extreme depression, and on the other by elevation.

But the Keiss skulls are to be termed "Australoid" rather than "Australian," inasmuch as they present differences in the formation of the supraciliary region, of the nose, and more especially of the teeth. The skull not only presents some similarities to the African negro type, but they lie in its general and not in its special characters.

So far, again, as the pelvic evidence is trustworthy, it points in the same direction. The male Australian pelvis is remarkable, among other characters, for the length of the antero-

posterior diameter of its brim, which is about equal to, or exceeds, the transverse diameter, while the female Australian pelvis has proportions similar to those of the European. It is not to be forgotten, however, that the pelvis of the Bosjesman female presents a remarkable antero-posterior elongation, and that the pelvis of No. 2, except for its vertical height and acute subpelvic arch, might be compared with it.

A long and animated discussion followed, in which a very general opinion was expressed that the remains were not of so remote an antiquity as Mr. Laing believed.

Dr. Thurnham expressed his concurrence in Professor Huxley's conclusion as to the "Ancient British" skull, but denied that the mode of burial described by Mr. Laing was a proof of the extreme antiquity of this race. Burial in the crouching position was by far the oldest, and the extended position was of comparatively recent introduction. On the whole, he should not date the remains later than some centuries after the Christian era.

Professor Busk stated that sheep-bones had been found in some excavations in this same neighbourhood, which was a proof that they were not of very great age.

Dr. Hodgkin observed that he had been much struck with the resemblance of the skulls of the second form to those of Australians.

Mr. Evans also was of opinion that there was no reason for assigning any extreme antiquity to the remains; and, with one or two exceptions, he believed that none of the stone implements had been fashioned for any particular purpose.

Mr. Christie said the implements were certainly of as rude a description as any he had ever seen; and, on the whole, he thought the remains were those of a people which had been forced by adverse circumstances to accept a civilization much lower than that which was their normal character.

Mr. Crawfurd believed the people described were the primordial Scotchmen, the aboriginal inhabitants of the island, the direct ancestors of the Bruces, the Wallaces, and the Burnses. He saw no foundation whatever for believing that these were the remains of two races. As for the suspicion of cannibalism, he did not believe in it. Gibbon, on the authority of an obscure lying Roman historian, had endeavoured to fix the imputation of cannibalism on the ancient Scots, but no people ever resorted to cannibalism which had plenty of animal food, which this people had.

Mr. Wright reminded Mr. Crawfurd that St. Jerome was the authority for the existence of cannibalism among the ancient Scotch tribes. He had seen prisoners of them in Gaul, who, he said, were much fonder of the owners of the cattle than of the cattle themselves.

### THE ROYAL SOCIETY RELIEF FUND.

THE Royal Literary Fund, thanks principally to its annual dinner, to the eminent names it has enrolled among its subscribers, and, last of all, to the charity it has so nobly, because so quietly, bestowed, is pretty well known to every one. We take it that the Scientific Fund—might we not say the *Royal* Scientific Fund, seeing that it is an offshoot of the Royal Society?—is known to very few, and yet we rejoice to see that it, too, has eminent names among its subscribers, and for five years has been nobly charitable, like its sister Society.

The Committee appointed to administer this Fund have recently issued their first report, accompanied by a list of subscriptions which, up to the end of last month, amounted to £5001. 14s.

The subscriptions to the Fund are invested without any deductions, and the total sum applicable at any time for relief is limited to the balance in hand arising from the amount of dividends previously received.

Application for relief is entertained on the recommendation of the President of one of the following chartered scientific societies:—The Astronomical, Chemical, Geographical, Geological, Linnean, and Royal Society; it being understood that the several Presidents will consult their respective Councils as to the persons whom they intend to recommend for relief.

The report, which is signed by Dr. W. A. Miller, Dr. Carpenter, Professor Sylvester, Professor Huxley, and Mr. Gassiot, explains the circumstances under which the Fund originated, as well as the distribution of the income as follows:

"On the 26th of May, 1859, a statement was presented to the Council, intimating a desire on the part of several of the Fellows of the Royal Society to promote the establishment of a permanent fund for the aid of such scientific men, or their families, as may from time to time require

and deserve assistance. A scheme having been suggested, it was, after some modification, approved and adopted by the Council of the Royal Society, and copies thereof were forwarded to the Fellows of the Chartered Societies. It formed no part of the scheme to attempt the grant of annuities; it was rather intended to afford *prompt* relief of the immediate wants of those upon whom sudden affliction had fallen, although, at the same time, it in no way debarred a continuation of such relief being given should the funds admit thereof. The Committee, as originally named by Council Minutes of the 22nd of December, 1859, consisted of Mr. Busk, Dr. W. A. Miller, Mr. Wheatstone, Dr. Tyndall, and Mr. Gassiot. Subsequently Dr. Carpenter, Mr. Sylvester, and Mr. Huxley were appointed to succeed those members who retired by rotation; and this year Dr. Miller and Mr. Gassiot will also retire, it being a regulation that no member can remain for a longer period than five consecutive years on the Committee. The first meeting took place on the 19th of March, 1860, Mr. Wheatstone in the chair. At this time £3204. 14s. had been received and invested in £3351. 7s. 6d. new Three-percents. In 1860 there was only one applicant for relief: a sum was voted; but, in consequence of the applicant's sudden decease, the cheque was subsequently returned to the Treasurer and cancelled.

In 1861 there were six applicants, to five of whom relief was afforded. In 1862 there were four applicants, of whom three were relieved. In 1863 there were five applicants, of whom four were relieved. In 1864 there were two applicants; both were relieved. The total amount thus expended has been £460; and there still remains £233. 1s. 11d. applicable for relief, exclusive of £17. 2s., subscriptions to be invested. The amount of the Fund, as invested, consists of £5300 Three-percents., every shilling (with the above exception of £17. 2s.) which has been received having been invested, without any deduction for expenses. The economical principle on which this Fund was originally founded has been thus strictly carried out. The Council of the Royal Society grants the use of a room, as well as the little stationery that is from time to time required, and permits the Assistant-Secretary to summon a meeting of the members as soon as any application for relief is received. One of the members of the Committee undertakes the duties of Secretary; and, in this simple manner, *all* expense is avoided, while the relief, if granted, is immediate. The amount at disposal for distribution is necessarily limited to the accumulation of interest, the gross amount of subscriptions being invested. The peculiar and distinctive character of the Royal Society Relief Fund is that, although relief has invariably been granted with the greatest promptitude, the claims have nevertheless been most carefully examined by those whose pursuits in life enable them to form the most correct conclusion as to the character of the claimant. The Committee can most conscientiously state that in no instance has any applicant having the slightest claim on the Fund been refused assistance. Sometimes the payments to recipients have been the first information they have received of such a fund being in existence. The Committee may have, on some occasions, regretted that it had not a larger sum at command; but the relief, whatever its amount, has always been received with gratitude for the substantial aid it afforded, and with pleasure as a recognition on the part of the Council of the Royal Society of good service rendered to science. The Committee is naturally desirous to retain sufficient funds in hand to meet any sudden emergency that may arise. At this time there appears a balance somewhat larger than usual; but this arises from there having been only two applicants this year, instead of five, as in 1863."

Surely the moment the existence of this altogether admirable organization becomes generally known, the members of our chartered scientific societies, and all interested in science and in its votaries, who have the means, will lend it their widest assistance. This Fund should form another link in the chain which binds scientific men together. We conclude by remarking that subscriptions in aid of the Fund will be received by Messrs. Robarts, Lubbock, & Co., Lombard Street.

### FRIEDRICH GEORG WILHELM STRUVE, PROFESSOR SILLIMAN, AND PROFESSOR BOOLE.

WILHELM STRUVE and Benjamin Silliman, men of mark in science at the poles of our Northern civilization, are no more; and, closely following the *Astronomische Nachrichten* and the *New-York Times*, which bring us this sad news,

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we have received the intelligence of yet another death, and that of one of the most philosophical of the mathematical thinkers which the century has produced.

Struve died at Pulkowa, one might almost say, in harness, although his equally talented son Otto has now for some time formally succeeded him. Taken unwell on the 4th Nov. (23rd Oct.), he died on the 23rd (4th). He was born at Altona on the 15th (4th) April, 1793, and in 1813 went to Dorpat, where the quondam philosophical student soon became one of the leading practical astronomers of the age. After rendering the name of Dorpat illustrious in the annals of astronomy, a wider sphere of usefulness was opened out to him by the Emperor of Russia. The idea of the Pulkowa Observatory was conceived; and Wilhelm Struve, as our readers have been already informed, was the master-spirit which guided the erection of the Observatory, which will serve as a model to all time. The work done at Pulkowa principally relates to sidereal astronomy, and each contribution to science which emanates from that Observatory forms part of a well-digested plan for twenty-five years' work, designed by him who is now no more before any of the observers began operations. Besides the observations and reductions of northern stars, determinations of the parallaxes of 1830, Groombridge, a *Lyrae*, and 61 *Cygni*, and other stars, observations of comets, nebulae, and Saturn's ring, &c., have also been undertaken, and a very large amount of labour has been bestowed on geographical work; and Colonel Forsch and Captain Zylinski have, during the last summer, made observations in Germany, Belgium, and England, for determining differences of longitudes by means of the electric telegraph between the principal points of that arc. One of the last important acts of M. Struve was to visit the Crown ministers and the Superintendents of Surveys in the principal states of Europe, in order to establish a national confederation for effecting the measure of an arc of parallel from Orsk, on the river Oural, to Valentia, in the west of Ireland, a measure which has now made considerable progress. Very numerous observations for latitude and longitude of points selected systematically on the vast area of the Russian Empire have been executed. Officers have been trained, instruments and methods invented, for this purpose. Determinations of longitude, of the highest degree of precision, have been executed between Moscow, Kasan, Archangel, Astrachan, and Dorpat. The intimate connection which has existed between Pulkowa and the Imperial Staff of Engineers, as well as the Marine, has proved very useful to each; and more than fifty officers have sojourned at Pulkowa, and have been instructed there with the greatest care. They are at present dispersed over the whole country, and are diffusing the knowledge acquired at the Observatory. This is an example we might imitate. Pulkowa, thanks to Struve, has become the scientific authority for the geographical work done in the country.

Professor Benjamin Silliman, senior, died at New Haven on the 24th ult. He graduated at Yale in 1798, afterwards studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1802. He afterwards accepted the Chair of Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Geology in Yale College, and in 1820 visited Europe to prosecute his studies in sciences which were at that time almost unknown in America. He returned after an absence of fourteen months, and published in 1851 an interesting "Journal of Travels in England, Holland, and Scotland." He revisited this country again in 1851, and again printed his notes, entitled "Narrative of a Visit to Europe in 1851" (2 vols., 8vo.). In 1807 he made an analysis of a meteorite of great size and brilliancy which had burst in the town of Western, Connecticut, and afterwards assisted Dr. Ware in his experiments with the oxy-hydrogen blowpipe, to which he gave the name of "compound blowpipe," by which it is commonly known. In 1818 Professor Silliman founded the *American Journal of Science and Arts*, now known all over the world as *Silliman's Journal*. The United States possessed, some forty-six years ago, but one single scientific periodical, the *Journal of Mineralogy*, and that was but short-lived. On its extinction, Professor Silliman, for the honour of his country, threw himself into the breach, and published in 1818 the first number of the journal which now bears his name. His remark was—we quote from "Trübner's Bibliographical Guide to American Literature"—"I feel that this work will absorb my whole life." And he was not mistaken. A year old, it had only 350 subscribers; and first he had to borrow money from a banker, giving

his own security to satisfy his publisher, and eventually to make the journal his own property. Only last week we told our readers of the effect of the civil war on the journal; now we complete this episode in the history of scientific literature. We quote probably the last paragraph which Professor Silliman ever edited: "The journal of science is finally compelled to yield to the pressure of high prices, like other American periodicals. . . . This publication is not an enriching business: for the past twenty years its income has seldom afforded more than sixty dollars a number (exclusive of the amount expended for the necessary foreign journals) for all editorial service, with usually nothing besides for the publishers." An ardent promoter of science, he continued to give lectures long after he had resigned his professorship. He was a man of simple tastes, and reached a good old age with mind and body both in full activity. To the very last, we read, he took a deep interest in the progress of science, humanity, and freedom all over the world.

Professor Boole, who died suddenly on Friday last, held the Professorship of Mathematics in Queen's College, Cork; and, although, by the nature of his studies he did not enjoy the wide reputation of a Struve or a Silliman, those who are capable of understanding the value of his researches, or were fortunate enough to enjoy his friendship and to make acquaintance with his far-reaching powers of thought. These were exercised on the subtlest problems of philosophy with a precision and energy rarely shown in any inquiry, and all will long mourn the untimely death of one who united to the extent of his mathematical learning a width of culture which preserved him from the dangers of isolated studies, and who threw over all the charm of an unconscious simplicity before which pretension was abashed. One of the first memoirs which gave him rank amongst our most eminent mathematicians was on the "Calculus of Operations," published in the *Philosophical Transactions* in 1844. Soon after his appointment to Queen's College he received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Dublin; and, in 1854, he published "An Investigation of the Laws of Thought, on which are founded the Mathematical Theories of Logic and Probabilities," a book full of acute and philosophical reasoning, and in many respects remarkable. His work on "Differential Equations," which has become a class-book in the University of Cambridge, is a model of clearness and precision. He was engaged in the preparation of a second edition of this work at the time of his death, and he spent part of his last summer vacation in London ransacking the treasures of the Royal Society and the British Museum, that his book might be as perfect as possible. He was the holder of one of the Royal Society's Royal Medals, his claims being founded on the memoir above alluded to, and on other works relating to some of the most difficult and abstruse questions of the differential calculus. An untimely death has put a stop to his labours. They were undertaken in pure love of science, and with no thought of winning honour and renown; but their value has been recognised throughout the kingdom, and by the foremost mathematicians upon the Continent.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

THE five-yearly prize offered by the Belgian Government for the most important work on the physical or mathematical sciences which may have appeared during that interval has been awarded to M. Stas for his "Researches on the Mutual Relations of the Atomic Weights of Bodies." The results of these experiments were published in the *Bulletin* of the Royal Academy of Belgium for 1860. They were undertaken with the view of testing the truth of Prout's theory, that the atomic weights of all bodies are multiples of that of hydrogen. It is almost unnecessary to state that M. Stas's investigations, which appear to have been conducted with most laborious accuracy, lead him to an opposite conclusion. The jury, in making their award, state that they do not wish to express any opinion on a hypothesis the truth of which future investigations will either confirm or destroy, but merely to bear testimony to the care and ability with which the experiments have been conducted, and to their great scientific value.

On Wednesday evening last, at the Society of Arts, an interesting paper was read on the "Progress of Irish Industry, and the Dublin International Exhibition of 1865," by Sir R. Kane. The paper pointed out the advance that had been

made in various Irish manufactures and industries during the past ten years, and gave a detail of the steps that had been taken towards the establishment of the second great International Exhibition in Ireland, to be opened in May next year. It was shown that a very good representation would be made, not only of Irish manufactures, but of the best specimens of art and industry of all the leading states of Europe, as well as of India, and of many of the principal British colonies. The hearty co-operation of British artists and manufacturers was invited, in order that all the credit might not fall to foreign exhibitors.

The following is a list of the Council of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, elected on the 28th ult.:—*President*: Principal Sir David Brewster, K.H., LL.D., D.C.L.; *Vice-Presidents*: Dr. Christison, Professor Kelland, Hon. Lord Neaves, Principal Forbes, Professor Innes, Professor Lyon Playfair, C.B.; *General Secretary*: Dr. J. H. Balfour; *Secretaries to the Ordinary Meetings*: Dr. G. J. Allman, Professor Tait; *Treasurer*: Mr. D. Smith; *Curator of Library and Museum*: Dr. D. MacLagan; *Councillors*: Dr. W. Robertson, Dr. E. Ronalds, Mr. T. C. Archer, Mr. W. F. Skene, Mr. A. K. Johnston, Rev. Dr. Stevenson, Dr. S. Macadam, Hon. Lord Jerviswoode, Mr. J. T. Gibson-Craig, Mr. E. Sang, Sir J. Coxe, M.D., Rev. Dr. Blaikie.

OUR friends across the Channel are no longer content that the enormous power of the electric light as a submarine illuminator should be taken advantage of only by fishermen. The *Courrier de Bretagne* describes some experiments made at Lorient by a commission appointed by the French Government to test its utility. Some divers were sent down to a depth of five metres, and, with the light six metres from them, were enabled to distinguish the divisions on a scale which was taken down. It was remarked that shoals of fish were attracted to the lantern, and among them eels and other creatures *du fond*.

SOME interesting observations on the causes of the afterglow (*Nachglühen*) of the Alps, and on twilight generally, are contained in a paper by Von Bezold, which appears in the current number of *Poggendorff's Annalen*. It is too long for abstract, but the conclusions at which the author arrives are worthy of notice, as they do not seem to agree with the generally received theory on the subject.

## SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

[NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have received various communications referring to Mr. Ruskin's Hydrostatics, but, as we have already announced that the discussion is closed, we are unable to insert them.]

## ON THE DISCOVERY OF THE TEETH OF FOSSIL BOVIDÆ IN PALESTINE.

Preston Rectory, Wellington, Salop, Dec. 12.  
MR. TRISTRAM, who, it is well known, has recently returned from a scientific expedition in Palestine, has favoured me with a communication, in which he states that, among the teeth in a *very recent* bone breccia which he discovered under the Lebanon, Mr. Dawkins has quite lately recognised those of *Bison minor* of our cave-deposits, and *Bos longifrons*, or some closely allied ox. Without noticing the general interest which attaches itself to such a discovery, I may be permitted to call attention to it as bearing upon a subject of Biblical Zoology. I refer to the Unicorn of Scripture, the Re'em of the Hebrew writers. It was long ago shown by Schultens, in his commentary on the book of Job, that the animal designated by the Hebrew term was no one-horned animal at all, but a creature possessing two horns. The text of Deuteronomy xxxiii. 17 (וְרָאֶת רַקֵּן "the horns of a re'em") sets this

matter quite at rest. Schultens very correctly translates the *re'em* of Job xxxix. 9 by *Bos syriacus*. In my article on "Unicorn" in Dr. Smith's "Dictionary of the Bible" I have remarked that it is "not improbable that some future explorer may succeed in discovering bones and skulls of some huge extinct *Urus*, allied, perhaps, to that gigantic ox of the Hercynian forest which Caesar describes as being of a stature scarcely below that of the elephant, and so fierce as to spare neither man nor beast should it meet with either." The *Urus* of Caesar (*Bell. Gall.* vi. 28) is probably identical with the *Bos primigenius* of our tertiaries. Pliny's *Bison*, which he characterizes as having a shaggy mane (*N. H.* viii. 15), and which, with the *Urus*, he says, was

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an inhabitant of Germany, may reasonably be identified, generically at least, with the *Bison priscus* of our own tertiaries, and at one time cotemporaneous with the *Bos primigenius* in England, having its living representative in the Auroch of Lithuania. We may look for the discovery of more remains and additional evidences of some large *bos* or *bison* amid the bone breccias of different parts of Palestine. Especially may we hope to hear of the discovery of skulls and horncores, by means of which we may, with more certainty than from teeth, pronounce upon the particular kind of wild ox that, in Biblical times, frequented the hills and woods of Palestine, and which, there is every evidence to suppose, represented the *re'em* of the Hebrew Scriptures and the "Unicorn" of our English version.

W. HOUGHTON.

## STONE REMAINS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

SOME time since you drew attention to the scarcity of stone remains in the South Pacific. Allow me to give you a description of some that I have seen there.

On the island of Upolu (Samoa group), about ten miles inland from the port of Apia, are the remains of a stone house, called by the natives "Le fale o le Fee," the "house of the cuttlefish." The ground plan is elliptic—say forty feet in the narrowest and fifty feet in the widest part—precisely the model and the proportions after which the best Samoan houses are still built. There are now standing eighteen pillars forming the ellipse, and one pillar in the centre. The former are three feet high, nine inches thick one way, and six inches the other. Each pillar has a notch or shoulder on the inner side for supporting the roof. There are many pieces of stone lying on the ground between the pillars still standing, in such positions as show that the whole of the side pillars were once in their places in the building. The centre pillar is five feet high, and twelve inches thick one way and nine inches the other. The top has been broken off, and now lies at its base. A second centre pillar lies on the ground near the place it once occupied, and measures seven feet in length, exclusive of the broken pieces still lying in the same line, which would increase the length to thirteen feet. In other respects it corresponds with the centre pillar, which is still standing. A block of stone, six feet long and six inches square, lies on the ground near the centre, evidently intended to rest on the top of the centre pillars, and there to form the upper angle of the roof. The rafters lie scattered about, some inside amongst the ruins, others at the base of the hill whence they were cut, showing the house was never actually completed. They are in lengths of twelve and six feet, and are four inches square. Allowing for the outward curve given by Samoan builders to the rafters of houses after this model, and for the comparative height of the centre and side pillars, two of the twelve-feet and one of the six-feet lengths would be required to span the arch from the side to the centre pillars—that is, to form one complete rafter. Southward from the centre of the house, at the distance of twelve feet from the side pillars, is a stone slab, six feet by three, having at its south end a pillar four feet high and twelve inches by six—slightly inclining to the southward. About fifty yards further in the same direction is the hill from the bluff side of which the pillars and rafters were cut. About 500 yards inland from the remains of the house, in the bed of a river (where the water is not less than twenty-five feet deep), are a number of immense coral boulders. A solitary one stands on the banks of the river, and measures seven feet in height by ten feet in circumference, and is moss-covered. In the line of the greatest length of the house, about twelve feet on each side of the centre, grow two venerable malili trees (*Serienthes Vitiensis*, A. Gray), which give a sombre solemn aspect to the scene.

The Samoans have a legend which ascribes the origin of this stone house to the handiwork of the gods. "Le Fee" was the god who designed it. He purposed to employ minor gods who were in subjection to him as labourers, and the work was to be carried on in silence. But, before the house was completed, a rival god delivered the oppressed labourers by overcoming "Le Fee" in combat. "Le Fee" retired to the sea, whence he has never returned, and the labourers followed their deliverer—thus together abandoning the great undertaking by which "Le Fee" designed to show to the world of men and spirits his great power.

WILL. T. PRITCHARD.

## THE "SCIENTIFIC DECLARATION" AGAIN.

Lancaster Villa, Westbourne Park, Dec. 4.  
"Oh! for a stone bow, to hit him in the eye."  
("Twelfth Night," act ii. sc. 5.)

I AM a "scientific obscurity"—that is, with a sincere love for science. I have never distinguished myself by original investigations of any kind, but, like many others equally obscure, though doubtless equally attached to their favourite sciences, my name occurs amongst those who are entitled to add the mystic letters "F.G.S." to their names.

Imagine my surprise this morning on receiving at my official address a document, said to be "in course of signature amongst scientific men," to which I am invited to place my name, in which document I am expected—first, "to regret that researches into scientific truth are perverted," &c.; next, to "remember that physical science is not complete, but only in a condition of progress," that I am "only able to see through a glass darkly" (what this may mean Heaven only knows); and, lastly, I am "confidently to believe that a time will come when the book of Nature and God's Word will be seen to agree in every particular."

Now, sir, when I find the names of all our great leaders in science conspicuous by their absence from amongst the printed specimens of the 350 names said to be already received, I am led to ask, What is the worth of a so-called scientific declaration of this kind? Is it not a contemptible proceeding to ferret out of the lists of scientific societies a number of "obscurities" like myself, in the hope that, amongst the tag-rag and bobtail of science, a sufficient number of names may be secured, with which to impose upon the credulity of the public, who naturally think one F.G.S. just as good as another, and that in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom?

EDWARD L. J. RIDSDALE.

## PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES.

VIENNA.

Imperial Academy of Sciences, October 20.—An important memoir was read by Dr. Boué, entitled a "Methodico-chronological Bibliography of the Artificial Production of Minerals." This embraces a catalogue of 791 memoirs, by far the greater part of which belongs to the present century, only 55 having been published up to 1799, whilst 734 have appeared since 1815. Appended to this catalogue are 109 analyses of the minerals produced, and some particulars of other matters connected with the subject. The greater part of these researches has been made by the French.—A note by Dr. Rosow, of St. Petersburg, "On the Consequences of Section of the Optic Nerve" states, in opposition to the usual notion that the nerve-fibres of the retina soon undergo fatty decomposition after this operation, that this result occurs only in consequence of the destruction of the vessels of the retina, or of violent inflammation. Otherwise the fibres of the optic nerve disappear very slowly.—Dr. E. Feuze read a report upon a felt-like substance found in Galicia on a meadow which had been flooded. It consisted of interlaced filaments of *Cladophora viadrina*, Kützing.—Professor Hochstetter also reported upon the results of his "Searches for Pile-dwellings in the Lakes of Carinthia and Carniola," a notice of which appears in another column; and Dr. L. Ditscheiner communicated the Crystallographic Determinations of some Platino-cyanides, prepared by Prof. Schröter. These compounds are the platino-cyanides of rubidium, of rubidium and barium, and of ammonium and magnesium. The crystals of platino-cyanide of thallium, and of the same salt of thallium and barium, were too small and imperfect for measurement.

## BERLIN.

Royal Academy of Sciences, June 2.—M. Parthey read a memoir "On the Upper Course of the Nile according to Ptolemy," in which he compares the description of the sources and course of the Nile, as laid down by the ancient geographer, with the results of the recent researches of Speke and Grant. From Ptolemy's statements, and from those of the unknown author of a Greek fragment, supposed to be of the seventh or eighth century, first published by Hudson in 1717, the supposed Mountains of the Moon, containing the sources of the Nile, lie in 12° S. lat.; and from them several streams run down to two lakes, under the sixth and seventh parallels of latitude S., and separated by about 8° of longitude. A third

lake is situated 4° further to the east, and immediately under the equator. The latter appears to be identical with the lake called Victoria Nyanza by Speke. It was remarked, that whether Tanganyika corresponds with one of the source-lakes of Ptolemy, with which its position would seem to identify it, has been rendered doubtful by recent measurements of altitude, according to which it is at a lower elevation than Gondokoro on the White Nile, in 5° N. lat.

June 6.—Professor Lepsius read a continuation of his memoir "On a Hieroglyphical Inscription on the Temple at Edfu," and Professor Bekker continued his "Remarks on Homer."

June 9.—A paper was read by M. Max Wichura "On Hybrid Fecundation in the Vegetable Kingdom, illustrated by Hybrid Willows." Dried specimens of hybrid willows of several degrees (binary to senary) produced by artificial fecundation were exhibited. M. von Olfers exhibited and made some remarks upon some objects of antiquity (Roman) found in the springs of Pyrmont.

June 16.—Professor Reichert read the first part of a "Contribution to the Knowledge of the Minute Structure of the Labyrinth of the Ear in Man and the Mammalia." Professor Magnus communicated a memoir by Professor Hofmann, entitled "Contributions to the Knowledge of the Coal-tar Colours," and also the results of an investigation by Dr. R. Weber "Upon the Compound of Chloronitrous Acid with Sulphuric Acid." A communication was read from Dr. Kern of Benares "On a portion of the *Gargamhitā Yugapurdā* discovered by him.

June 20.—M. Weierstrass read a memoir "On a General Theorem relating to Elliptical Functions." Professor Peters communicated a report "Upon some new Mammalia, Reptiles, and Fishes." The new mammalia are *Marmops megalophylla* from Mexico, *Macrotus minor* from Cuba, *Vesperus Segethii* from Chili, and *Dysopes gigas* and *Capromys melanurus* from Cuba. The reptiles are more numerous, but they include descriptions of a Cuban variety of *Platydactylus Americanus*, Gray, and a Molluccan variety of *Euprepes Samoensis*, A. Dum.; in connexion with the latter Professor Peters gives a tabular view of the supposed genera of *Scincidae*, which he justly thinks have been too much multiplied. The new species are *Otocryptis nigritabris* from Borneo, *O. fusca* from Malacca, the latter forming the type of a new sub-genus (*Aphaniotis*), and *O. gularis* from Calcutta, also forming a new sub-genus (*Ptyctolasmus*); of snakes, *Ungalia maculata* var., and *Dromicus angulifer* var. from Cuba, *Dromicus clavatus* from Mexico, *Tropidonotus melanogaster*, Wieg. from Mexico, and *Xenodon angustirostris* from Veragua. A single Batrachian, *Hylodes varians*, from Cuba is also described. The new species of fishes are *Sillago Schomburgkii* from Adelaide, *Sebastes meleagris* from the Red Sea, *Myctophum megalocephalum* from Cape Horn, *Carassius vulgaris* var., *Barbus serra* and *afra* from the Cape of Good Hope, *Pacilia Bensonii* and *sexfasciata* from Liberia, *Leptocephalus brevicaudus* from the Manilla Sea; and, from unknown localities, *Channa ocellata* and *Saurenchelys cancri-vora*—the latter the type of a new genus.

June 23.—A memoir was read by M. Weber "On One Hundred Proverbs of the Cánakya," with the verses in the original Sanscrit, and translated into German.

June 30.—M. Rudorff read a paper "On the Liber de Officio Proconsulis."

## PARIS.

Academy of Sciences, Nov. 14.—A memoir was read by Professor Hofmann "On the History of the Colouring Matters derived from Coal-tar," including a description of the base, to which the author has given the name of Phenyltoluylamine.—A note by M. Pisani "On Deviline, a new Mineral from Cornwall," was read. It is found with laugite, from which it differs in its lighter colour, its lamellar texture, and its silky lustre. From its composition it appears to be a hydrated subsulphate of copper, containing about eight per cent. of lime, and nearly three per cent. of protoxide of iron.—Two notes were communicated to the meeting by MM. Oppenheim and Berthelot upon the "Heat of Combustion of Formic Acid," which has lately been found by the latter to be in excess of that of the oxide of carbon, of which, with water, he considers that acid to be composed. M. Berthelot concludes from this fact that, during the formation of formic acid, there is an absorption of heat which constitutes the excess set free during combustion. M. Oppenheim considers

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that this absorption is explained by the decomposition either of water or of carbonic acid during the formation of the formic acid, as indicated by the typical formula  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}_2$ , which he adopts for that oxide.—“The Cementation of Iron by Gas-coke” formed the subject of a note by M. H. Caron. He found by experiment that gas-coke has no effect upon iron, and ascribes its inactivity to the almost complete absence in it of alkalies. By the addition of ten per cent. of carbonate of potash or baryta, the iron was readily converted into steel.—In opposition to a previous note by M. Caron, M. Margueritte communicated a paper on the “Cementation of Iron by Carbon and Oxide of Carbon,” in which he maintains the power of those bodies to convert iron into steel.—M. Chapelas-Couvier-Gravier communicated the results of his “Investigations into the Position of the Centres of Emanation of Shooting-stars,” researches directed principally to the solution of the question whether there is a special centre of emanation for the great showers of meteors in August. He comes to the conclusion that there is no such point of radiation peculiar to the August maximum, but that its centre of emanation is the same as that of the phenomenon in general, which is situated at about  $7^{\circ} 19'$  of azimuth, and  $10^{\circ} 11'$  of zenith distance in the latitude of Paris.—A letter from M. Boisse was read, giving an account of a meteor observed by him at Rodez on the 11th November. This was remarkable for the long persistence of the luminous train, faintly perceptible five minutes after the passage of the meteor. M. Boisse describes it as at first a brilliant white line, which gradually widened, becoming at the same time less intensely luminous, and passing through all the shades of a body which, having been heated to whiteness, gradually cools. In its later stages the train appeared to form a cloud of fine but distinct sparks.—The meteorite of Orgueil has been investigated by MM. des Cloiseaux, Daubrée, and S. Cloëz, and some of the results of their researches were communicated to the meeting. MM. des Cloiseaux and Daubrée have found in its interior a crystallized carbonate of magnesia and iron which they have determined to be Breunnerite, and M. Cloëz has found the quantity of carbonic acid contained in the stone to be a little more than one-half per cent.—A memoir was read by M. Paul Gervais on “Cases of Polymelia (supernumerary limbs) observed in a Batrachian of the genus *Pelobates*, and in a species of *Raia*.” The case in the Batrachian (*Pelobates cultripes*) consists in a duplication of the left anterior member, and is therefore identical with that described by Superville, and cited, with two other examples, in the common frog by Is. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire. The ray (a Thornback, *Raia olivacea*) bears on its back, near the back of the head, a pair of fins imperfectly representing the great pectorals of this species. M. C. Rouget read a note “On the Termination of the Motor Nerves in the Higher Vertebrates,” and M. E. Bandelot communicated some interesting “Observations on the Structure of the Nervous System in *Clepsine*.” M. de Saint-Venant communicated a paper “On the Work or Potential of Torsion,” and M. Verdril an appendix to his note of the 5th September last on an experiment “in which a free mobile body describes certain curves in a direction opposite to the impulsion applied to it.” M. Ramon de la Sagra forwarded several specimens of the bark of the *Pieramnia pentandra* of Swartz, which is employed in Cuba as a remedy for intermittent fevers; he has imported a sufficient quantity of this bark to allow of its being tried in France as a substitute for Peruvian bark, to which it is said to be preferable. M. Ramon de la Sagra also sent a note on the possibility of teaching the deaf and dumb to speak by the observation of the lips of those around them.

## BRUSSELS.

Academy of Sciences, Dec. 3.—The death of M. Struve, one of the associates of the Academy, and Director of the Imperial Observatory at Pulkowa, was announced. M. Wesmael communicated his observations on the Periodic Phenomena of Planets for the year 1864. The following papers were presented:—Coemans—“*Cladonia acharia*: a Critical Revision of the Cladoniae of the Synopsis and Herbarium of Acharius.” Boddaert—“On the Histology of the Spinal Marrow.” Dewilde—“New Methods of Producing Acetylene.” Dubois—“On the Action of Sodium Amalgam on certain Metallic Salts.” Valerius—“On the Internal Structure of Bodies.”—Reports on two papers on the Variation of Species, which had been previously presented to the Academy, were then read. They were of little

scientific interest.—M. Quetelet read a letter from M. Hansteen, containing some additions to his paper “On Terrestrial Magnetism,” which recently appeared in the *Bulletin*. He admits the existence of a periodicity of nineteen and a half years in the amplitude of the magnetic oscillations—a period differing but little from that of the nutation of the earth's axis, with which he suggests it may be in some way connected.—M. Van Beneden laid before the meeting a letter from M. Van den Heck, containing an account of the *Tenue* of Abyssinia, and also a notice of the excavations at the *Trou des Nutons*, near Dinant, Namur. They are, it appears, being carried on with activity, and a second cavern has been explored at no great distance from the first. Several specimens which had been found there were exhibited to the Academy. He also presented a paper “On the Rorqual of the Cape of Good Hope, and on the Keparkak of Greenland.”—M. Quetelet read a paper “On the Periodical Shooting Stars of April 1864,” which he had received from Mr. Newton, of Newhaven (U.S.). He regretted the absence of all observations on this subject in the Southern hemisphere, where he had not yet been able to find observers sufficiently zealous to undertake them. M. Quetelet then gave an account of the last star-shower of the month of August, but, owing to the cloudiness of the sky in America during the nights of observation, only an approximate estimate of their number could be formed.—M. Delwaque gave a description of a tooth of *Carcharodon megalodon*, which had been found near Haccourt, in the valley of the Meuse, in the course of making some excavations for the Liège and Maestricht canal. It occurred in a black and tolerably coherent gravel at a depth of about 3·25 m. from the surface, and at a distance of thirty metres from the river. He considered it to be a satisfactory proof of the existence of these great sharks in the diluvium of the Meuse.

## LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Geological Society, Dec. 7. Mr. W. J. Hamilton, President, in the chair.—Messrs. W. G. Atherton, M.D., J. Brogden, Lieut. A. B. Brown, F. H. Dickinson, G. Dowker, G. Forster, C. Graham, T. B. Lloyd, W. C. Maclean, W. Molyneux, W. Prosser, J. E. Randall, J. W. H. Richardson, R. N. Rubidge, M.B., Rev. R. N. Russell, W. W. Stoddart, Rev. R. B. Watson, F.R.S.E., and J. H. Wills, were elected Fellows. The following communications were read:—1. “On the Geology of Otago, New Zealand.” By James Hector, M.D. In a letter to Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., F.R.S.—The southwestern part of the province of Otago is composed of crystalline rocks, forming lofty and rugged mountains, and intersected by deeply-cut valleys, which are occupied by arms of the sea on the west, and by the great lakes on the east. These crystalline rocks comprise an ancient contorted gneiss, and a newer (probably not very old) series of hornblende-slate, gneiss, quartzite, &c. Eastwards, they are succeeded by well-bedded sandstones, shales, and porphyritic conglomerates, with greenstone-slates, &c., in patches, all probably of Lower Mesozoic age. Then follow the great auriferous schistose formations, which comprise an Upper, a Middle, and a Lower portion; and upon these occur a series of Tertiary deposits, the lowest of which may, however, possibly be of Upper Mesozoic date, while the upper, consisting of a Freshwater and a Marine series, are unconformable to it, and are decidedly much more recent. In describing the auriferous formations Dr. Hector stated that the quartz-veins occurring in the schists were not often true “fissure-reefs” (that is, reefs that cut the strata nearly vertically, and have a true back, or wall, independent of the foliation-planes), but are merely concretionary laminae that conform to the planes of foliation; the gold occurs segregated in the interspaces of this contorted schist, but is rarely found *in situ*. Dr. Hector concluded with some remarks on the early Tertiary volcanic rocks, observing that the period of their eruption must have been one of upheaval, and that the great depth of the valleys, which have been excavated by glacier-action since the close of that period, proves that the elevation of the island, at least in the mountain region, must once have been enormously greater than it now is.

2. “Note on communicating the Notes and Map of Dr. Julius Haast, upon the Glaciers and Rock-basins of New Zealand.” By Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., F.R.S.—In this note Sir Roderick Murchison states that Dr. Haast has informed him in a letter that he has for the last five years attentively followed the discussions on glacier the-

ries; that in March 1862 he came, independently of other authors, to the same conclusions in New Zealand that Professor Ramsay did in Europe; and that his views have been printed in his Colonial reports as geologist of the province of Canterbury. Sir Roderick also stated that the constant field and other occupations of Dr. Haast have hitherto prevented his carrying out his intention of writing a paper for the Geological Society; but he has sent the following notes as a résumé of his views. Though opposed to the theory of the excavation of basins in hard rocks by the action of ice, Sir Roderick commended the researches of Dr. Haast as showing the mutations of the surface in successive geological periods.

3. “Notes on the Causes which have led to the Excavation of deep Lake-basins in hard Rocks in the Southern Alps of New Zealand.” By Julius Haast, Ph.D. Communicated by Sir R. Murchison, K.C.B., F.R.S.—Referring first to the submergence of New Zealand during the Pliocene period, and to its subsequent elevation, the author stated that the chief physical feature of the country after that elevation was a high mountain range, from which glaciers of enormous volume, owing to peculiar meteorological conditions, descended into the plain below, removing in their course the loose Tertiary strata, and thus widening and enlarging the pre-existing depressions, the occurrence of which had at first determined the course of the glaciers. The author then observed that, the country having acquired a temporary stability, the glaciers became comparatively stationary, and therefore formed moraines, the materials of which were cemented together by the mud deposited from the water issuing from the glacier; new moraine matter would then raise the bed of the outlet and dam up the water below the glacier, and from this moment, he believes, the formation and scooping out of the rock-basin begins; for the ice being pressed downwards, and prevented by the moraine from descending, its force would be expended in excavating a basin in the rock below.

4. “Note on a Sketch-map of the Province of Canterbury, New Zealand, showing the Glaciation during the Pleistocene and Recent Times, as far as Explored.” By Julius Haast, Ph.D. Communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., F.R.S.—This paper contained a general explanation of a sketch-map illustrating the past and present distribution of the glaciers on the eastern side of the Southern Alps of New Zealand, as well as the author's views on the excavation of lake-basins in hard rocks, as shown by the coincidence between the positions of the lakes and the terminations of the ancient glaciers.

Chemical Society, Dec. 1. Professor A. W. Williamson, Ph.D., F.R.S., President, in the chair.—The new members elected by ballot on this occasion were Lieut.-Col. Hy. D. Scott, R.E.; Lieut. C. S. Beauchamp, R.E.; Lieut. H. M. Hozier, Second Life Guards, Topographical Department; Messrs. J. Bray, C. Ekin, H. Haywood, D. H. Jay, J. F. Payne, J. G. F. Richardson, W. W. Rouch, J. Berger Spence, Dr. Hermann Sprengel, and A. P. Turner. Mr. M. Carteigne was admitted a Fellow of the Society; and the names of Mr. Alfred Noble, Bristol, Mr. J. Carter Bell, Manchester, and Mr. Alexander Stuart, London, were proposed for election.

Dr. Marcelet read a “Note on the Distribution of Albumen through Muscular Tissue.” The author recapitulated the conclusions which he had laid before the Society at its last meeting, and referred to Professor Graham's objection to some of his statements. Since that period he had taken an opportunity of testing the animal membranes employed in the dialysers, in the manner suggested by the great author of dialysis; and he was ready to admit that it was necessary to modify his former conclusions. He was now of opinion that albumen could not pass through an animal membrane in the manner required for its dialytic transfer, but only in consequence of the existence of capillary apertures, or pores, in the thin membrane through which the liquids could flow out. Dr. Marcelet then related the particulars of some interesting experiments in which the entire liver of the sheep was used as a dialyser. This organ, being supplied with a quantity of juice of flesh, introduced through a glass tube, was immersed in water, when some albumen, but much less than before, diffused out. Comparative experiments were made with sections of liver and the outer membrane of the same, and in all cases albumen appeared to pass through; but, upon finding that these septa were themselves pervious to pure water, the author was compelled to adopt the conclusion that the albumen escaped not by diffusion, but as the result of its physical distribution.

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Professor Wanklyn then read a paper "On the Action of Sulph-hydrate of Potassium upon Acetic Ether." The author pointed out the two reactions which were possible in this case, and showed the bearing of the resultant change upon the theoretical constitution of the ether. If the old view was correct, the radical of the acetate of ethyl should unite with sulphur to form mercaptan; but another result was possible—viz., that the sulphur should combine with the acid, and then thiacetate of potash would be formed. His experiments were not yet quite decisive; but he could confidently state that no mercaptan was generated, which was necessary if acetic ether was the acetate of ethyl.

In the discussion which followed, the theoretical views held by Professor Wanklyn were disputed by the President, Dr. A. W. Hofmann, Dr. Frankland, and Dr. Odling.

Mr. A. H. Church made some statements "On the Density of certain Minerals," in continuation of the results communicated at a former meeting. Several zircons were heated to redness, and their densities compared before and after ignition; the results were indicative of a very slightly increased gravity in some instances, but usually there was no appreciable alteration. In experimenting with gadolinite the author found a decided increase in density after the mineral had been heated to a degree sufficient to induce phosphorescence. The original gravity in one instance was 4.223, which became 4.356 after the glow of intense heat had affected the mineral. Mr. Church stated that the density of garnets was lowered by the application of a degree of heat high enough to cause fusion.

Mr. G. W. Septimus Piesse described an instrument called "*La Bouffée*," which he considered might be useful in the laboratory as a refrigerator.

Royal Geographical Society, Dec. 12. Sir Roderick I. Murchison, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. C. Fletcher presented, on the part of the government of Brazil, a copy of a magnificent work, published under the auspices of the Emperor, on the Rio St. Francisco, one of the great rivers of the empire. The work contains a detailed description and chart (on the scale of one inch to a mile) of the course of the river for more than 1000 miles. Mr. Fletcher remarked that the Emperor took an active part in this and similar works tending to the advancement of geographical knowledge.

The first paper read was a "Description of the Islands of Kalatoa and Puloweh, to the North of Flores, in the Malay Archipelago," by Mr. J. Cameron, of Singapore. These little-known islands were visited by the author in the course of a trading expedition, and the chief result of his visit was the conviction that they contained no fresh water. The fact of the absence of fresh water in these islands was disputed by Mr. Crawfurd and Mr. Wallace, the latter of whom had visited many similar islets in the Malay Archipelago, in which, although no fresh water was apparent on the surface, a plentiful supply could always be obtained by digging until the level of the sea was reached, the porous coral-rock of which the islands are formed serving as a filter.

The next paper was "On an Expedition to the West Coast of Otago, New Zealand, and the Discovery of a Practicable Route over the Mountains to the Gold-fields and the East Coast," by Dr. Hector. The author, who is the official geological surveyor of the Otago Province, in the course of his explorations of the deep sounds and rivers of the west coast in 1863, discovered a broad river entering St. Martin's Bay.

A third paper, by Mr. Albert Walker, consisted of a short narrative of a hazardous journey which the author performed along the west coast of the Middle Island, New Zealand. Starting from Christchurch, they crossed the "saddle," and descended the Teramakau to its mouth, thence following the sea-shore as far as the Wanganui river.

Anthropological Society, Dec. 6. Dr. Hunt, President, in the chair.—The following new Members were elected:—Messrs. H. J. Johnson, S. Burton, T. Lampray, H. Braddon, Dr. Balthazar Foster, F. D. Davies, A. McArthur, F. R. Spry, Colonel Richards, Rev. J. Mould, J. P. S. C. Nicholson. The following papers were read:—1. "On the Prehistoric Remains of Caithness." By Mr. Samuel Laing, F.G.S.—The author communicated the particulars of some researches recently instituted by him on the shore of Sinclair's Bay, about eight miles north of Wick. He had there examined several shell-mounds and a burial-mound, and had succeeded in obtaining from them a series

of very perfect skulls and other parts of human skeletons. The burial-mound was at least half a mile long and about eighty or ninety yards in breadth, within which space were found numerous kists containing human skeletons. There were no traces of dwellings, of the action of fire, or of refuse-heaps in connexion with the burial-mound, a few of the kists only containing some shells and bird-bones, probably placed there as food for the deceased. One skeleton of a man of large proportions was found in company with a series of stone weapons which were among the rudest ever used by man. The other mounds were the sites of ancient dwellings, one of which was clearly superimposed upon a shell-mound, composed chiefly of limpet and periwinkle shells and some animal bones and teeth chipped into small fragments. Arrow-heads and pieces of bone of the rudest construction were also found. In one place the fragment of a human lower jaw was found which evidently had belonged to a child of about seven years of age; and, as no other trace of human bone was found in the same spot, coupled with the fact that another isolated fragment of human jaw had been found in another midden, and both under circumstances precisely similar to those of the deer, pigs, and oxen by which they were surrounded, a fair presumption was raised that the aboriginal savages who inhabited Caithness were occasionally cannibals—a character which Lyell, judging from the Danish Kjökkemöddings, had not attributed to the primeval Danes. Two other mounds disclosed structures of unhewn stone, which were possibly places of worship or sacrifice for the rude tribes which formed them. In summing up the results of his researches Mr. Laing referred the kists and skeletons in the burial-mound to the early stone period; and, judging from their contiguity and identity of character in the articles found, he considered that the other mounds had been the dwelling-places of the same race as was associated with the burial-mound. The skulls varied in characteristics, one being almost equal to the best British, while others approximated to the lowest known type of humanity. There were no proofs of intercourse with other people, and the arts of the aboriginal race were of the most imperfect description.

Professor Owen, from a hasty inspection of the skulls produced, was disposed to agree that they belonged to a race of Southern origin. From certain indications on the fragmentary jaw of a child which had been produced he could not help thinking that cannibalism was practised occasionally by the race to which it had belonged.

2. "On the Discovery of a Large Kistvaen in the Muckle Heog, in the Island of Unst, Shetland, containing Urns of Chloritic Schist," by Mr. G. E. Robert; with Notes upon the Human Remains by Mr. C. Carter Blake.—The authors described the singular human remains which had been discovered in close proximity to the tums formed of the stone of the district, and pointed out the remarkable abnormality which was presented by one of the skulls—i.e., the presence of a pneumatic process similar to that which had been described by Professor Hyrtl.—Mr. C. C. Blake further described the results of comparisons between the skulls and those of Celts, "riverbed skulls," "stone period skulls," and skulls from various ossiferous fissures. They accorded nearest with the first type.

Professor Owen expressed his opinion that the skulls greatly resembled those of the aboriginal black native of Australia.

Entomological Society, Dec. 5. Francis P. Pascoe, F.L.S., President, in the chair.—The Rev. Herbert Milnes, Messrs. Wm. Hume and Trovey Blackmore were elected Members.

Mr. Jenner Weir exhibited some microscopic preparations of the spiral tongues of butterflies for the purpose of showing the variation in the mode of striation and in the papillæ which exist at the end of the tongue.

Mr. Bond exhibited a coloured drawing of the larva of *Acronycta strigosa* feeding on hawthorn, and a photograph of a singularly sooty variety of *Abraxas Grossularia*.

The Rev. Hamlet Clark exhibited a collection of beetles made by Mr. Pickard-Cambridge above Cairo.

Mr. F. Smith exhibited a parti-coloured wasp's nest constructed by two species of wasp, a number of common wasps (apparently by mistake, and in the belief that it was their own nest) having assisted a colony of *Vespa Germanica* in the completion of the nest which belonged to the latter.

Mr. W. F. Evans sent for exhibition a box full of fragments of a Lamellicorn beetle, *Pyronota*

*festiva*, which had been picked out of some New Zealand wool; it was supposed that, in the course of their flight, the insects came in contact with the sheep, and were entangled in the fleeces so as to prevent their escape.

The President exhibited some globular spiders' nests from South Australia, which were remarkable for their resemblance to the fruit of *Leptospermum*, the tea-plant of Australasia, whilst the spiders themselves were described as looking like the excrement of a bird.

Mr. S. Stevens exhibited several pairs of *Chirocolasia Burkei*, one of the rare Goliath beetles of tropical Africa; he also read a letter from M. du Chaillu, dated Fernand-Vaz River, 20th August, 1864, in which the writer announced the despatch to England of a large collection of insects.

Mr. W. F. Kirby read some "Notes on the Synonymy of certain British Butterflies." Mr. Hewitson communicated "A Monograph of the Genus *Ypthima*, with Descriptions of two new Genera of Diurnal Lepidoptera." Captain Hutton, of Mussooree, communicated a paper "On the Reversion and Restoration of the Silk-worm" (being the concluding part of a former communication to the Society).—A new part of the "Transactions" (Third Series, vol. ii. part 3), was announced as ready for distribution among the members.

Philological Society, Dec. 2. Professor Malden in the chair.—The Rector of the Berwick Corporation's Academy, Mr. Lean, and a third gentleman, were duly elected Members of the Society. On the motion of Professor Key (of which the notice was inadvertently omitted in our last report) the resolutions of the meeting of Nov. 4 relating to Serjeant Manning's paper were rescinded, satisfaction being expressed with the explanation and expression of regret for his mistake expressed in the learned Serjeant's letter read at the last meeting. The paper read was "On our Names of Colours," by the Rev. W. Barnes, B.D. First, *blue*, whose Anglo-Saxon parent had a more general meaning, as in *mistic bles*, a different hue; Friesic, *bläy*, colour. The root meant "light," as seen in *blaecern*, a light-place, for a candlestick or lamp, though it was also applied to a black-place or inkhorn. From the colour the name was also transferred to the appearance of a person, and in "He's the very *bly* or *bligh* of his father" was seen the analogue of the Welsh *blaidd*, look, appearance.

2. *Green* was so called as the main colour of grass; and *ground* was formed as the place of growth; *chloa*, in Greek, was "grass," and *chōlos* "green;" while the Welsh *gwyrrd* corresponded to the Latin *viridis*, Welsh *gw* being always represented in Latin by *v*. 3. *Yellow* had for its original meaning "clear, pure, bright," as shown in Friesic *gol*, *golle*; in Welsh it was *melyn*, honey-colour. 4. *Red* was connected with the root *ri*, *ring*, to reach on or forth. 5. *Grey*, with the root of grind, grate, and was the colour of *grey*, *grist*, or meal, as it fell from the mill, as in Welsh *blawd*, meal; *blawr*, hoary. 6. *White*, as Anglo-Saxon *hwit*, was from a root *hwig*, or *gwig*, seen in *quick*, lively, and had an original meaning of "lively, quivering, dazzling." "O du lakestoo wiwt,"

"Friesic, *wiit*, white; *di witte hand*, the right or quick hand; Old English *geip* is also "quick" and "fair," Morris.

7. *Brown* was from the stem *bren*, burn, and was the colour of sunburnt skin, or a scorched surface; hence *brindled* and *bran*, the brown husk as contrasted with the white wheat-meal. 8. *Dun* was from the same root as "dull," "dim," "dunt;" and *drab* that of *drab*, soft mud. 9. *Tawny* was said to be the colour of *tan*, the "fire-heated stuff"; cp. Welsh, *tán*, fire; Gothic, *taudrān*, to kindle, burn; Old English, *tine*, to light. 10. *Mauve* was the colour of *la mauve*, the mallow; and *lavender* was said to be so called as the herb of the *lavandière*, or washerwoman, to be put in with clean linen.

British Archaeological Association, Nov. 23. Mr. G. Godwin, F.R.S., V.P., in the chair.—A list of thirty-five new Associates was read, consisting of his Grace the Duke of Cleveland; Lord Henniker, M.P.; Hon. and Rev. F. De Grey; Hugh Adair, Esq., M.P.; J. C. Cobbold, Esq., M.P.; Ven. Archdeacon Ormerod; Revs. C. E. Alston, M.A., Henry Canham, M.A., A. C. Daymond, H. A. Holden, D.C.L., Thomas Mills, M.A., William Purton, M.A., J. P. Sills, M.A.; Messrs. G. C. E. Bacon, C. H. E. Carmichael, F. Corrane, F. M. D. Davies, M. Dewsnap, M.A., J. P. Fitzgerald, Rowland Fothergill, W. Gilstrap, Aug. Goldsmith, F.S.A., E. Grimwade, J. Hodgson Hinde, Captain Horrex,

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W. P. Hunt, John Johnston, John Kelk, Hector Maclean, Wellwood Maxwell, M.A., S. Wilton Rix, Captain Wardell, Robert Webb, Godfrey Wentworth, Sterling Westhorpe. Numerous presents to the library were laid upon the table.

Mr. Syer Cuming, in laying before the meeting a variety of pseudo-antiques cast in cock-metal, reviewed the steps taken by the Association in regard to the detection of these forgeries.—Mr. Gould, Mr. T. Wright, and others, confirmed Mr. Cuming's statement and gave examples in illustration.

Mr. T. Wright exhibited some pieces of Greek Samian ware from Tarsus, in Cilicia, and pointed out their resemblance to the red Samian pottery of the Romans found in Britain and Gaul.

A letter from Mr. Thompson of Leicester was read, announcing that, under the direction of the Leicestershire Society, important excavations had been commenced at the mass of Roman masonry in that town known as the Jewry Wall.

Dr. Brustfield forwarded a paper on Roman intaglios discovered at the station of Petriana on the great north wall of Hadrian. They were six in number, and impressions of them were exhibited. Two were Gnostic seals in sardonyx, the others in red composition and in bloodstone.

Lord Boston exhibited a portrait of Henrietta Maria upon paper, spread on an oval panel, attributed to Sir Peter Lely, but bearing a close resemblance to one of Van Dyck's pictures of the queen.

Mr. Cuming produced an etching representing the marriage of the king, in which Cardinal Richelieu is uniting the hands of the Duke de Chevreuse (proxy for Charles) and Henrietta Maria. The Earl of Holland is standing behind the duke at this ceremony.

Mr. Planché read a paper "On the Nine Worthies, Male and Female," in illustration of a series of curious paintings on panel in Amberley Castle, Sussex, which were thought by Dalloway to be allegorical representations of Flemish provinces. After giving several lists of the "Nine Worthy Men" and "Nine Worthy Women," all varying. Andrew Favine's "Théâtre d'Honneur," published in 1620, consisting principally of "Queens of the Amazons," who are therein described as bearing armorial insignia generally resembling, and, in three instances, identical, with three painted on the shields of the armed and crowned ladies portrayed on the Amberley panels. Mr. Planché exhibited photographs of five of these pictures. It is very probable that there had been as many as eighteen panels so ornamented, in which case the other nine might have represented the male worthies; but, if so, they had disappeared before Dalloway's time, as no mention is made of them.

**Institution of Civil Engineers, Dec. 6.**—Mr. J. Fowler, V.P., in the chair.—The following were elected:—Lieut.-General Edward Todleben, as an Honorary Member; Messrs. E. Dorning, R.S. Frazer, J. L. Gallott, W. J. Hardcastle, G. Latham, G. O. Mann, J. R. Manning, J. Simpson, jun., W. S. Smyth, and O. Younghusband, as Members; Messrs. B. C. Browne, W. F. G. Bruff, C. Capper, W. Craven, F. L. Dibblee, G. H. Edwards, E. Franckel, W. Harrison, A. Jacob, W. H. Lizars, D. Llewellyn, C. T. Lucas, T. Lucas, C. Reilly, J. W. Sizumer, and A. A. Wilkinson, as Assistants. The paper read was "Description of the River Tees, and of the Works upon it connected with the Navigation," by Mr. Joseph Taylor. After describing the course of the river, from its rise in the south-eastern flank of Cross Fell, in the Goredale series of carboniferous limestones, and the geological features of the country through which it passed, the author alluded to the works above Darlington for supplying that town, as well as Stockton-on-Tees and Middlesbrough, with water. Having noticed the principal works connected with the navigation, the author next referred to their effect on the channel of the river.

## MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10th.

**ASIATIC**, at 3.—5, New Burlington Street.  
**SOCIETY OF ARTS**, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi. Cantor Lectures. "On the Reproduction of Natural Forms by Art and Manufacture." Mr. B. W. Hawkins.

**ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS**, at 8.—"Anatomy." Mr. R. Partridge.  
**BRITISH ARCHITECTS**, at 8.—9, Conduit Street, Hanover Square.

**MEDICAL**, at 8.—32a, George Street, Hanover Square. "On the Present State of Medical Logic." Mr. Hunt.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11th.

**CIVIL ENGINEERS**, at 8.—25, Great George Street, Westminster. Annual General Meeting.

**STATISTICAL**, at 8.—12, St. James's Square. "On the Extension of Modern Subjects as a Part of Regular Study in Educational Institutions." Mr. James Heywood.

**PATHOLOGICAL**, at 8.—33, Berners Street, Oxford Street.  
**ANTHROPOLOGICAL**, at 8.—4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. "On the Prehistoric Remains of Caithness." Mr. Samuel Laing (*adjourned discussion*). "On the Discovery of Kistvaens in the Mackie Heog, Shetland." Mr. G. E. Roberts, with "Notes on the Human Remains." Mr. C. Carter Blake (*adjourned discussion*). "On Prehistoric Hut Circles." Mr. G. E. Roberts. "On the Contents of the Tumuli at Cheltenham." Dr. H. Bird. "On Remains from Italian Turbaries." Mr. C. Harcourt Chambers.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12th.

**LONDON INSTITUTION**, at 7.—Finsbury Circus.

**SOCIETY OF ARTS**, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi.

**GEOLoGICAL**, at 8.—Somerset House. 1. "On the Coal-measures of New South Wales with Spirifers, *Glossopeltis*, and *Lepidodendron*." Mr. W. Keene. Communicated by the Assistant-Secretary. "On the Drift of the East of England, and its Divisions." Mr. Seares V. Wood, Jun.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13th.

**ZOOLOGICAL**, at 4.—11, Hanover Square.

**ANTIQUARIES**, at 8.—Somerset House.

**ROYAL**, at 8.30.—Burlington House.

## ART.

### THE OLD WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

The contributions of John Gilbert consist of eight small highly-finished studies in four frames. Though versatile and prolific, as all strong minds are, he has a conscience, and does not occupy wall-space with four or five-and-twenty frames containing each half-a-dozen scraps, bucolic, floral, and landscape, torn from sketch-books, and too slight to interest those who have learnt that dexterity does not mean finish. He is a conventional painter if you please, but he is certainly one of the ablest artists in England. The meaning of the word "conventionality," as applied to pictures, we take to be the general consent of great artists, past and present, about certain laws of composition, methods of treatment, and balance of colours. Every educated painter is in danger of merging his originality in the established rules of practice; but, before he can be a good painter, he must understand the laws upon which all great works have been founded. To some minds this knowledge comes by keen perception of the limits and necessities of art in its competition with nature; to others it is the result of scientific analysis reduced to practice. The elder Cox may be taken as an instance of the first class of minds, Mulready of the second. Cox could give no reason for anything he did; Mulready could account for every touch in his finished works, and fairly state with what intention it was laid on: both were conventional painters, but they were not mastered by conventions. Most of us know what common amateur acting is, and how painfully we note the absence of the conventionalities of the stage. The great actor does not dispense with them: the universal consent of his profession has established them for his guidance. He differs from the amateur in having a thorough knowledge of them: he rises above the conventional actor, who is bound and fettered by them, by his judicious use and mastery of them. The conventionalities of painting are more important, and the painter who is ignorant of them expends labour and skill upon ill-selected subjects, upon ugly-shaped pictures, upon effects of nature impossible to be rendered, and upon crude efforts to attain to that completeness which he will never reach so long as he is too proud to learn the meaning of what he contemptuously calls conventional methods of treatment.

John Gilbert is a conventional painter in the same sense that Rubens was; and it is as childish to ignore his great qualities because we happen to differ from his conceptions of Shakespeare's characters, as it is to be wilfully blind to the stupendous genius of Rubens because we conceive a distaste for his fat women. We question whether there be any painter now living in England who, we will not say could execute, but who could conceive, more naturally and nobly, the scene from "Henry VIII." (450) in which Wolsey sweeps past Buckingham, or who could paint a more truthful combination of landscape and figures than the background which contains the old Abbey of St. Albans in "The Miraculous Cure of Simpcox" (398). Though holding to a few exceptions, we share the prevalent objections to this artist's representations of Shakespearian characters; not, however, because they are conventional in the large sense of the word, but because they display the small conventions of his own practice in this particular direction;—we should be ashamed to deny the presence of the vigour, life, and movement that distinguish alike his figures and landscape, and set them before us as a living scene in nature.

George Fripp has sent a selection of small drawings in four frames; the reputation of this admirable landscape-painter is always steadily

advancing, and his works form one of the chief attractions of this Society's exhibitions. There is not now living a more diligent and faithful student of nature: his works not only bear scrutiny, but their excellence cannot be fully appreciated without it; they are less attractive at first sight than many neighbouring drawings, in which the soberies and harmonies of nature are not so well preserved. Certain studies lately made on the Cornish coast in the neighbourhood of Trebarwith, and two or three reminiscences of Stretey on the Thames, are well worth attention. One can almost accompany the artist along that old road skirting the shore of Trebarwith, and note with him the fine combinations that every turn of it discloses to view: the sea at one moment breasting the bluff over which the road is laid, and anon, half a mile away, rolling in upon the level sand in its crested majesty. Fripp can bring these impressions home to us not only because he feels their significance and beauty, but because he also is an artist versed in all the means and appliances which generations of landscape-painters have exemplified in practice. He knows also how to select and how to compose, and his eye has been educated to perceive the truth as it is in nature, set forth in a well-adjusted balance of all the parts of a given scene.

From such artists as Holland and Fripp younger painters like Boyce and Alfred Hunt have much to learn. Boyce would almost appear to delight in the selection of ugly or common-place subjects, and Hunt seeks earnestly, yet painfully, to overcome difficulties that would have baffled even Turner. Yet both are true and earnest artists; and, in the exhibition, of the quality called "tone," Boyce's drawings are unequalled in the gallery. A sea-piece at Babbacombe (456), and a study of an old barn at Whitchurch (435), are notable instances of his power; and we cannot help feeling how much more rare it is to find one important element in a picture so finely rendered, than to meet with a masterly display of common-place conventionalisms, such as we have partly undertaken to defend. But we must still regret that this clever artist is either ignorant of or despises the laws which govern good picture-making; were it otherwise, he would pay a little more attention to the choice of his subject and to the length and breadth of the paper on which he is about to set it forth: but for his wonderful powers of representing one element of beauty, his pictures would be really ugly and probably uncared for.

Hunt's weakness results from a different cause: he never chooses common-place subjects—he often realizes to a great extent what he evidently strongly feels; but it is beyond all mortal power to paint the midday sun or the tapping of a blast-furnace. Four centuries since Da Vinci declared it to be an error to attempt to paint the full power of sunlight: the practice of the Venetians confirmed the truth of his maxim, as their most gorgeous effects resulted from the golden light of sundown. Although the example of Turner may be used in justification of almost every attempt to reproduce extraordinary effects of light, it may be fairly questioned whether the result of his practice does not establish the position of those who, considering the limited means at a painter's disposal, maintain that he should look rather to the soberies than to the effulgences of nature for the subjects of his pictures. However this may be, we know that Turner himself studied quiet effects for years before he attempted to paint the difficult effects of light which younger painters do not scruple to make trial of on their virgin canvases. Such effects may be rendered by art, but only perhaps by the suggestive sketch of a man of vast experience like Turner. A sketch has something in common with the suggestive fleeting nature of the real effect; but this sort of sketching comes only by infinite study and sacrifice.

Duncan and Dodgson, thoroughly accomplished artists, have sent finished drawings, to be distinguished from their contributions to the summer exhibitions chiefly by the circumstance that they are mounted upon white cardboard, instead of being framed up close to the margins. Dodgson still delights in the shady glades and sunny slopes of Knole Park, and Duncan repeats some of his favourite subjects on the Northumberland coast.

Davidson is more at home in the Winter Exhibition; he has the power of suggesting more by one of his fresh and complete sketches than he ever realizes in his elaborate drawings. The same is true of Nastel, whose most important work, "A View of the Piccola Marina in the Island of Capri" (276), is one of the best sketches in the gallery; he contributes also several studies of the Guernsey coast, evidently made upon the spot. Oakley has also been at work in the same field;

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and it is not a little interesting to note how his faculty becomes, as it were, freshened and strengthened by being exercised in a new field, so that he is able to throw aside the mannerisms, or, it may be, the weariness, which marks his treatment of rustic figure-subjects. A similar instance of the advantage that may be gained by working in another field is furnished by the late practice of Jenkins, who manifests a vigour in landscape-painting of which he gave no sign in the figure-subjects by which his reputation was made.

The drawings of Joseph Nash, who has again become a regular contributor to the gallery, require no comment, as they are, in all respects, counterparts of his well-known old English interiors. No one can touch him in his own line; his great knowledge and experience are among the precious possessions of the Society, of which he has been for so many years a distinguished ornament. We may, however, note one instance of splendid drawing among others in the interior of a modern drawing-room in Carlton House Terrace (294).

Frederick Tayler's sketches are slighter than usual—less satisfactory in the special qualities for which they are usually prized. The admirers of Richardson would do well to possess themselves of one or more of the sketches he exhibits in these Winter Exhibitions, touched in with such perfect taste and really marvellous execution.

One of the older and greatest artists of the Society, Samuel Palmer, is well represented; his drawings display the influence of a high classical training in the practice of his art. "The Early Ploughman" (189) is a good instance of his rare power of elevating his subject; he places us on classic ground, among the pastorals of Virgil. Carl Haag we have already mentioned as one of those who have kept in mind the purpose of the exhibition, and he has contributed some clever sketches made with a view to his own practice. Lundgren also, who is one of the new members, has sent some admirable sketches; one especially of "A Street in Cairo" (46) which indicates great powers of observation and rapid execution.

Birket Foster is perhaps just now the most popular artist in the Society. All must be charmed by the choice execution with which he lays before us essentially English rural scenery. Pre-Raphaelite landscape-painters are likely to underestimate the abilities which they cannot ignore: might they not take a lesson from the taste he displays in his choice of subjects? Like a small sect which refuses to sing the devil's tunes, and retains only the most doleful and miserable airs of the conventicle, they seem to delight in the selection of the most uninteresting subjects, and leave all the joyous scenes of nature to what they call conventional practice. A great charm of Birket Foster's pictures unquestionably lies in his happy selection of agreeable subjects, though his taste and beautiful execution are not without their share in the hold he has on public favour. We should not close this notice without a word in favour of Rosenberg's conscientious studies of birds and fruit. A sheet of drawings of English birds may be noted as possessing great interest. F. Walker, who promises to rise to the highest rank among his fellows, has sent but little to represent him—only two subjects from Denis Duval, with one of which we are familiar by the etchings in the *Cornhill Magazine*. The sketches by Andrewes, Branwhite, Smallfield, Collingwood, D. Cox, Willis, and the Goodalls require no special notice. The pencil-studies by the late J. D. Harding, and some contributions from the folio of the late William Hunt, confer valuable additional interest upon the exhibition.

## THE HAYWARD AND LEGGATT GALLERY.

SOME few months ago the public were startled by the account of the death of Mr. Leggatt, the eminent picture-dealer of Cornhill, which was occasioned by his swallowing a large iron nail in some soup supplied at the refreshment-room of the Rugby station. In consequence of his death, the above gallery, part of the stock-in-trade of the firm of which he was a partner, was dispersed under the hammer of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods at the Gallery in Change Alley, Cornhill, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, last week. The three days' sale realized £15,845, and amongst the chief art-treasures were the following:—Lot 123. W. P. Frith, R.A.—"The Marshalsea Prison," scene from "Little Dorrit," size 19 in. by 24 in., brought 290 guineas; 125. J. Philip, R.A.—"A la Fuente, Andalusia," a female figure, 20 in. by 24 in., 290 guineas; 126.

T. Creswick, R.A.—"The Road by the River," the figures by Marcus Stone, 24 in. by 18 in., 150 guineas; 129. G. C. Stanfield, 1864—"Dietkirchen on the Luhn," 36 in. by 24 in., 100 guineas; 132. T. Sidney Cooper, A.R.A., 1863—A Landscape, with a Group of Sheep near a Pool of Water, 145 guineas; 136. John Linnell—"The Wood," 36 in. by 28 in., 335 guineas; 139. R. Ansdell, A.R.A., 1864—"Cattle on Lytham Sand Hills, Southport in the distance," exhibited at the Royal Academy during the present year, 410 guineas; 140. C. Baxter—"The Fair," a female figure, 20 in. by 24 in., 115 guineas; 142. J. C. Hook, R.A.—"A Sailor's Wedding," 36 in. by 26 in., exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1863, 650 guineas; 143. R. Ansdell, A.R.A.—A Moor Scene, with Keepers, Dogs, and Game, 36 in. by 24 in., 210 guineas; 144. A. Elmore, R.A.—"The Origin of the Combing Machine," 56 in. by 40 in., exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1862, 680 guineas; 144. A. Elmore, R.A.—A small finished picture of the same subject, 17 in. by 12½ in., 180 guineas; 145. H. Le Jeune, A.R.A.—"The Infancy of Moses," 28 in. by 36 in., 210 guineas; 146. David Roberts, R.A.—Mount St. Michael, Coast of Normandy, painted in 1856, 300 guineas; 147. T. Faed, R.A., 1864—"Lucy's Flittin'," 20 in. by 31 in., to be sent by the purchaser to the Royal Academy for the Exhibition of 1865, 570 guineas; 254. T. Sidney Cooper, A.R.A., and F. R. Lee, R.A.—"A Scene in the Highlands," 72 in. by 50 in., 320 guineas; 258. W. Halliday—"The Measure for the Wedding Ring," 26 in. by 36 in., 100 guineas; 263. T. Creswick, R.A.—Dutton Viaduct, on the Weaver, 12½ in. by 8 in., 79 guineas; 267. D. Wilkie Wynfield—The "Queen's Oak," 54 in. by 36 in. (Elizabeth Woodville and Edward IV.), 95 guineas; 270. R. Ansdell, 1864—Ptarmigan and Setters, 24 in. by 20 in., 85 guineas; 281. Eyre Crowe—Dr. Johnson, Boswell, and Goldsmith at the Mitre Tavern supping together, 24 in. by 19 in., the engraved picture, 37 guineas; 283. F. R. Pickersgill, R.A.—Lady Mortimer singing to Hotspur and Glendower, "Henry IV., act iii, scene 1, 42 in. by 28, 77 guineas; 284. T. S. Brooks—"The Relenting Creditor," 49 in. by 36, exhibited at the Liverpool Academy, 1863, 97 guineas; 285. T. Creswick, R.A., 1864—The Avenue at Derby, with Figures and Sheep in the foreground, 36½ in. by 47½ in., 360 guineas; 286. R. Ansdell, A.R.A., 1863—"Over the Moors," 54 in. by 30 in., 270 guineas; 287. C. Stanfield, R.A., 1859—Brodick Castle, Isle of Arran, 48 in. by 30 in., 845 guineas; 288. E. W. Cooke, R.A., 1860—Alicant, Coast of Spain, 23 in. by 14½ in., 160 guineas; 289. F. Goodall, R.A., 1861—Sultan Hassan's School at Cairo, 22 in. by 14½ in., 255 guineas; 290. C. Stanfield, R.A.—The Battle of Roderedo, 19 in. by 13 in., 305 guineas; 291. H. S. Marks, 1864—The "House of Prayer," 28 in. by 36 in., 145 guineas; 292. P. F. Poole, R.A.—"Lighting the Beacon on the Coast of Cornwall at the Appearance of the Spanish Armada," 72 in. by 50 in., 570 guineas; 293. W. E. Frost—"Hylas and the Nymphs," 35 in. by 18 in., 340 guineas. This was the last of the oil-paintings sold, and wound up the second day's sale. The third day's sale included the following drawings:—Lot 329. C. Werner—Entrance to a Mosque at Cairo, 13½ in. by 20 in., 41 guineas; 347. T. S. Robins—Dutch Fishing-boats Entering a River, 26½ in. by 19 in., 41 guineas; 349. E. Nicol, R.S.A.—"The First Lesson," 13½ in. by 19 in., 35 guineas; 361. E. Duncan—Sunset off the Mumbles, near Swansea, 14½ in. by 10 in., 26 guineas; 367. S. F. Hewitt—"Hop-picking in Kent," 24½ in. by 12 in., 32½ guineas; 370. E. Richardson—Dietz, on the Lahn, 33½ in. by 22½ in., 30 guineas; 375. G. Cattermole—The Darnley Conspirators, 10½ in. by 7½ in., 25 guineas; 377. T. W. Topham—Italian Peasants, 18 in. by 12 in., 120 guineas; 381. T. Sidney Cooper, A.R.A.—A Group of Cattle on the Bank of a River, 15½ in. by 11½ in., 50 guineas; 383. J. W. Oakes—Camber Castle, Sussex, 30 in. by 21½ in., 47 guineas. This was the last of the drawings.

THE late Mr. John Scott, of the firm of Colnaghi, Scott, & Co., of Pall Mall East, bequeathed his collection of fifty water-colour drawings to the Edinburgh National Gallery, where in future they will be known as the "Scott Drawings." This series of drawings comprises water-colours by Danby, Girtin (one of the founders of the English School of water-colour painting), Collins, David Cox, Roberts, Lewis, Cattermole, P. Derriant, J. D. Harding, Joseph Nash, Knell, Callow, Fripp, Elmore, and several other distinguished artists, as well as pencil-drawings by Patrick Nasmyth, William Dyce, Sir Edwin Landseer,

and Samuel Prout. Among the most remarkable of these drawings are those by Joshua Cristall, born at Truro, in Cornwall, in 1768. They are distinguished by a fine feeling for colour, masterly composition, clever drawing, and fine aerial perspective. Mr. Cristall was one of the founders of the original Society of Painters in Water-Colours, whose first exhibition was opened in April 1805. These "Scott Drawings" ought to have much effect in promoting what is so much wanted in Scotland—namely, a good school of water-colour painting, as they afford good specimens of the styles of a number of eminent artists, particularly in landscape, and, though small, they are remarkably well selected.

## MUSIC.

### THE GREAT CHORAL SOCIETIES.

THESE great musical associations follow a track so level and so unvaried that there is little of new interest to record in chronicling their proceedings. What they do one year, they do, as a rule, the next—running through, in about a couple of seasons, the whole of their well-used *répertoire*. The Sacred Harmonic Society is now keeping its thirty-third Christmas; but it can scarcely have given, during the whole of its career, thirty-three different concerts. The wish that this were not so has been so often reiterated, and reiterated to such small purpose, that it is little use to utter it again. Nor would it be fair to make the complaint without at the same time admitting that the societies can make a strong case in defence of their present policy, so long as they keep their present organization. It is not so much, indeed, a policy of choice as a course thrust upon them by the necessities of their existence. The popular works must be performed, and ought to be performed, constantly for reasons too obvious to need enumeration; and, so long as the societies consist mainly of amateurs, and employ such enormous bodies of singers, they can sing nothing else than these popular works. Being amateurs, the singers can meet only once a week—no severer tax, at least, upon volunteer energies has ever been attempted. Their rehearsals being then so few, they can perform no more than half-a-dozen or a dozen works in the year. Of this small number some must be the most popular works, only a margin being left for the less familiar pieces. It is thus only by small degrees that an unfamiliar work can creep into the list of money-drawing performances, and the production of an entirely fresh piece, whether new or old, becomes an enterprise of serious moment. It must either be produced when only half-known, at the imminent risk of utter failure, and be learnt, if learnt at all, in the actual process of being performed, or its sufficient study must occupy time which would be ordinarily devoted to adding to the revenue of the society—to say nothing of the chance of insufficient preparation damaging the performance of the more popular works laid aside for the purpose. These causes would remain in force even if the societies were fixed bodies, meeting with the utmost regularity, amenable to the strictest discipline. But the contrary is the case in each of these respects. The personnel of the societies is in a state of perpetual flux; a large number come, and another large number go, with the beginning and end of every season; amateurs have to be indulged with a certain amount of license; "urgent private affairs" must be allowed to excuse absences which paid choristers would never venture upon; the spirit and energy of the volunteer must be bought at the price of a considerable relaxation of the discipline of the conductor's desk, and a considerable addition to the difficulties of the committee-room. These are some of the drawbacks necessarily incident to amateur work; and these are unnecessarily aggravated, and others gratuitously introduced, by the unreasonable size to which it is the present fashion to swell our choirs. The larger the vocal body, beyond certain easily-defined limits, the more unwieldy it is to direct and the more expensive to manage. Every voice added beyond the number required to produce a tone adequate to balance a complete orchestra is a loss, not a gain. The special beauty of the particular vocal effects dependent on immense numbers is not for an instant to be set against the coarse violent style of execution which must needs become habitual with a vast body of mediocre singers. For the level of individual efficiency must decrease, be it observed, with the increase of numbers. The evil in this respect propagates and multiplies itself. Good singers will sing worse in a large choir than in a small one; but the larger the choir the harder it is to get good

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singers to join it—singers with good voices, or good musical cultivation, not caring to become indistinguishable units in vast hosts. Two or three years' work in a choir such as that of the Sacred Harmonic Society, where every man is compelled by natural instinct to outshout, or try to outshout, his neighbour, in order to hear what notes he is himself singing, will ruin the tone of any voice. No wonder that the tone of such choirs is thick, hollow, and dull. It would soon become so, even if its members started as Marios and Santleys. Considering all these things, the wonder surely is that the monster choirs achieve so much, that their range of performances is as wide as it is. That so much has been done with such ordinary materials, and under such a vicious system, is an index to the strength of the musical revival which has made the middle classes of England—even now, when real musical instruction is only beginning to be popularized—the best choristers in the world. The spectacle exhibited by one of these huge choral gatherings at Exeter Hall, or at the Crystal Palace, is an immense social as well as artistic demonstration; for what an aggregate of healthy social enjoyment it implies—enjoyment of the purest kind going on in the homes of the hundreds and thousands of singers! But we need not marvel, on looking a little more closely at their machinery, that these unwieldy bodies are slow to travel out of their beaten track, though there are many grand compositions, the fellows of those which they already know, waiting to be made popular. It was by an extraordinary effort that the Sacred Harmonic Society brought out, a few years back, the colossal "Missa Solemnis" of Beethoven. To produce it again now would probably require an equal amount of labour, and would cost the Society, in effect, thousands of pounds. Who, then, can blame them if they choose the less arduous task of singing "The Messiah" and "Elijah" to the thousands of people who have not yet heard, or not yet heard often enough, these immortal works? The truth is that public appreciation of this kind of music, warm as it is in degree, is still very small in amount, if considered either by comparison with what it ought to be, or with the demand for music of lower kinds. One-half, or one-third of the money spent by the wealthy classes upon Italian operas would amply suffice to pay for the performance of the masterpieces of choral music by bodies of trained vocalists and orchestras of the first rank. This will be done some day, no doubt—not to the extinction, but to the improvement of amateur music. The "household words" of the art, our "Judases" and "Elijahs," may then, as now, give employment to zealous bands of amateurs; while a "Choral Philharmonic" worthy of a great metropolis is making many a now nearly unknown oratorio, "Passion," Requiem, of Handel, Bach, or Cherubini as familiar to us as the symphonies of Beethoven. To bring about such a revolution would be a worthy object of ambition to a rich and powerful body like the "Musical Society of London." But if such an idea seems too Utopian to be entertained, we must hope that some spirited musician may be found—some Mr. Leslie in another line—who will have the courage to organize a good volunteer choir of trained voices, willing to devote to the pursuit the time requisite for giving a worthy performance of the best music.

The two London societies whose proceedings have been the text for these speculations, the Sacred Harmonic and the National Choral, are now in the midst of their respective seasons. The first opened with a performance of "St. Paul" three weeks ago, and sang "Judas Maccabaeus" yesterday week. Its choir is, in its own way, flourishing, and, in one point, if the remembrance of former impressions does not deceive, improved. More soprano tone was audible in the performance of "Judas" than, so far as we can remember, at any previous concert: the result, possibly, of increased numbers—there are about ninety ladies in this part—or of judicious recruiting—more probably the latter. The characteristics of the performance were, in other respects, the same as ever—the same magnificent dash, the same coarseness, the same almost entire absence of attempt at light and shade, or variation of tone, the same reckless shouting of the tenors and basses, the same deficiency of female tone in the altos, and, worst of all, the same overpowering dominance of orchestral din produced by those terrible "additional accompaniments" of Mr. Costa. One would think that the Society's professed reverence for Handel would restrain it from the perpetration of this outrage; but, if its managers are unmoved by this consideration, they might at least take into account the physical discomfort

which such a tumult of brass and parchment inflicts upon their audiences. Mr. Wilbye Cooper sang admirably the tenor music at this concert, *vice* Mr. Sims Reeves indisposed.\* Madame Sherrington's singing also was such as to deserve special remark. Her delivery of the great air "From mighty kings" was a consummate piece of bravura singing. The rest of the solo music was taken by Madame Sainton, Miss Banks, and Mr. Weiss.

The performance of "Elijah" on Wednesday by the National Choral Society showed, in the greater freedom and precision with which the choruses were sung, that the choir have become much more familiar with the music. As it would be vain to ignore the fact that the two bodies are rivals (an honourable rivalry, for there is ample room for both), we may say that the younger Society's rendering of the work is altogether a fresher, quieter, and more pleasant performance than we are accustomed to hear from the other choir. It is pleasanter because one can listen to it the evening through without being stunned, and because the choruses are sung with some regard to expression. Vocal expression is not possible to a body of singers absorbed in a perpetual struggle with an inordinately large band. But here the band is of reasonable size, and the choral element is allowed to occupy its proper place. The expression thrown into some of the choruses—we may quote as examples, "Yet doth the Lord," in the opening scene, "He, watching over Israel," and "He that shall endure," in the second—shows as near an approach to what choral singing should be as anything we have heard in combination with a band, not excepting even the achievements of Mr. Costa's Birmingham chorus. If the choir continues to improve as it has hitherto improved, it will soon be as effective a body of singers as the nature of such a Society admits of. Miss Pyne, who was the soprano on this occasion, sang her music as no English singer has sung it since Madame Novello. Her consummate purity of vocalization reminds the hearer of that great singer, just as the liquid quality of her voice recalls, in some places—the scene, for instance, of the boy watching for the rain-cloud—the exquisite tones of Madame Goldschmidt. Mr. Reeves, who made his first appearance at Exeter Hall for the season, was in fine voice, though singing a little nervously. In his last air, however, "Then shall the righteous," the unmatched splendour of his voice and style was felt in its full force. Mr. Lewis Thomas and Miss Palmer filled the bass and contralto parts.

R. B. L.

## MUSICAL NOTES.

At the Crystal Palace Concert of this day week Spohr's "Descriptive Symphony" illustrative of the season was played for the first time. It is beautiful throughout, but a *largo* movement, in which the languorous softness of a summer day, with its "buzzings of the honied hours," is depicted in a strain of exquisite harmony, was, on a first hearing, its most striking feature. The *finale*, bringing in a characteristic drinking-song, to illustrate the festivities of a vintage, is a vigorous movement. Madame Grisi is to appear at the concert of this day.

A MEETING of the Society which we mentioned as about to be formed among members of the Civil Service, "for the practice and performance of orchestral, choral and chamber music," is to be held on the 5th of next month. Amateurs desirous of joining the Society are invited to place themselves in communication with the provisional committee. The committee has, we observe, a representative in most of the more important public offices.

LOVERS of music who live in any of the districts intersected by the North London Railway will be glad to see a specimen programme of the series of classical concerts lately instituted at the Manor Rooms, Hackney. That of the next concert (on the 20th) includes, besides some vocal pieces, Beethoven's Quartett in A, Mozart's Pianoforte Trio in E No. 2, a Quartett of Spohr, and Schubert's Quintett in A (with contrabasso). The players are Messrs. Burnett, Betjemaan, Amor, E. Howell, and A. Howell, with Mr. Prout as pianist.

SOME very convenient and cheap editions of John Sebastian Bach's vocal works have lately been issued by Messrs. Peters of Leipzig (London agents, Ewer & Co.). The series includes the Christmas Oratorio, a "Magnificat," the Matthew

\* The great tenor's disability had been notorious for some days before, as he had been too unwell to sing at Her Majesty's Theatre on the previous Tuesday. The usual printed notice of paper bore the statement that the fatal certificate had been "just received." Do the gentlemen of the Committee think this honest?

"Passion," and the Mass in B flat minor. The same publishers have brought out in a like form the "Missa Solemnis," the Mass in D minor, and the Requiem in C minor of Cherubini.

THE following circular has been addressed to the members of the late Choral Class of the Musical Society:—"3 Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W., December 8th, 1864. SIR,—The Choral Class of the Musical Society of London, finding that the Council has made no provision, in the scheme for the coming season, for a continuance of the meetings for choral practice, and feeling convinced that the Council intend that such meetings shall not be resumed, have formed a Committee to consider what steps shall be adopted, in order, if possible, to arrange for a continuance of these or similar meetings, and to prevent a dispersal of the members, who have derived so much gratification and instruction from the practices during the past five years. To this end it has been proposed that the members of the Choral Class should form a new and independent Society, not in any way in opposition to the Musical Society of London, nor embracing so many objects, but chiefly for the purpose of carrying on operations of a kind similar to those on which the Choral Class has been hitherto engaged. There appears to be no doubt that many members joined the Musical Society of London principally, if not entirely, for the sake of the choral practices; and, considering the amount of pleasure and instruction these meetings have afforded, it is thought very desirable that the members of the present Choral Class should have an opportunity of re-organization under a different, and, it is confidently hoped, a better and more permanent system. It is proposed that the new Society shall be limited, at first, to one hundred members, among which the present members of the Choral Class are invited to enrol themselves; and that, under certain restrictions, new members may from time to time be admitted. The annual subscription will be £1. 1s., which will cover all the expenses of about twenty-five meetings. The Committee will endeavour to secure the Marylebone Room now used, or some equally central and eligible place, for the meetings, which are to be under the musical directorship of Mr. Henry Smart. The evening of meeting will, in all probability, be Tuesday, as heretofore. About forty members of the present Choral Class have already consented to join the proposed new Society, the operations of which will be commenced as soon as a sufficient number of members are enrolled. The Committee therefore request that you will inform them (if possible on or before Tuesday next, the 13th instant), by letter addressed to me, whether they may add your name to the list of intending members.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, E. B. LAMB, Chairman of the Committee."

A "PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY," on the model apparently of the London societies bearing this name, has been lately established in Edinburgh. Mr. John Hullah is engaged as conductor. The modern Athens, say those who ought to know, has much to do to raise itself to a level with her busier rival in the matter of music. A recent performance of "Elijah" at Glasgow, under the direction of Mr. Lambeth, is said to have been better and more complete than anything that can be heard out of London, Birmingham, and Manchester.

ON Tuesday evening, the members of the Eton College Musical Society (with the sanction of the Rev. E. Balston, the head master) gave a concert at the Mathematical School, which had been placed at their disposal by the Rev. S. Hawtrey. The conductor was Mr. J. Foster. The programme comprised selections of sacred and secular music, and commenced with the chorale "Sleepers, wake" (St. Paul), Mendelssohn. This was followed by a solo, "Let the people praise Thee," by the Hon. S. G. Lyttelton, and a chorus. Mr. Gambier sang the solo, "Jerusalem, thou that killest," &c., by Mendelssohn; and Handel's duet, "The Lord is a man of war," was given by Mr. Parry and the Hon. S. G. Lyttelton. Some of the secular music was exceedingly good: a part-song, "Orpheus with his lute"—Macfarren; a solo (pianoforte) from "La Sonnambula," by Mr. Gosselin—Leybach; and "Che faro," by the Hon. E. H. Primrose—Glück. The concert closed with the National Anthem.

## MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

DECEMBER 19th to DECEMBER 24th.  
TUESDAY.—Chamber Concert, Manor Rooms, Hackney.  
WEDNESDAY.—"Messiah," National Choral Society, Exeter Hall, 7.30 p.m.  
FRIDAY.—"Messiah," Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall, 7.30 p.m.

# THE READER.

17 DECEMBER, 1864.

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